

# HYPOCRISY IN THE CHURCH

Acts 5:1-11

*Jesus has you all or not at all.*

**Ananias claimed to give all but only gave some. (1-2)**

**Peter calls out Ananias' hypocritical heart. 3-5)**

**Ananias is judged for his sin. (5)**

**Sapphira tests the Lord and fails. (7-9)**

**Sapphira is judged just the same. (10)**

**The church responds in fear. (11)**

**Sin is serious.**

*God is holy.*

**Hypocrisy hurts.**

*God is real and we should be too.*

**Partly devoted is not devoted.**

*Jesus calls for our all.*

## Discussion Guide

### Open Up

- How would you define hypocrisy?
- Why do you think discussions about giving are often seen as taboo in the church?
- Why is hypocrisy so dangerous?

### Dig In

- What do you find most attractive about the description of the Early Church found in Acts 4:32-35?
- Read Joshua 7:10-26. In what ways is the story of Achan similar to the story of Ananias and Sapphira?
- What made Barnabas' story (Acts 4:36-37) so remarkable?
- If God judged the sins of greed and hypocrisy with the same method he used for Ananias and Sapphira, would you still be alive?
- According to Romans 2:4, what should be our response to the grace of God?

### Live Out

- If you answered earlier that you would NOT be alive if God judged with the same consequences now as he did in the 1st Century, what do you need to repent of? What practical change will you make this week to live a more fully devoted life?
- What can we practically do as a group to display a faith that is authentic and not hypocritical?
- Take time to pray for the Holy Spirit's power and provision to give all (and not only a part) to God.

***What is Jesus saying to you? • What is your next step?***

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