God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

You Are Ananias

Speaker: Tony Orihuela

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Highlighted Scripture

- **Psalm 118:24 (NKJV)**

  "This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it."

  This psalm celebrates God's steadfast love and saving work. Tony opens with its invitation to rejoice. Gratitude can turn our attention toward God even when the day has been difficult; it does not require pretending that every circumstance is good.

- **Exodus 14:30-31**

  The Lord rescued Israel from Egypt, and the people recognized His power at work through Moses. Tony recalls Moses to remind us that God gives different people different assignments. God remains the deliverer, whatever part His servant plays.

- **1 Samuel 13:14 (NKJV, excerpt)**

  "The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart,"

  Samuel announces that King Saul's dynasty will not continue; God seeks a faithful king. Tony's reference to David points toward a heart responsive to God. Faithfulness matters more than prominence.

- **Acts 9:10-20 (NKJV, verse 18)**

  "Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized."

  Ananias brings his fear honestly to the Lord, then visits Saul and lays hands on him. Jesus sends him so Saul can regain his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Saul is baptized and begins proclaiming Jesus. Ananias serves God's purpose without becoming the center of the story.

- **Acts 22:12-16**

  Paul later remembers Ananias as a respected, devout man who came beside him and spoke about God's calling. This is the same Saul, also known as Paul. Tony's invitation to be an Ananias applies that pattern of faithful service; it does not promise an identical assignment or outcome for everyone.

Discussion Questions

- When you compare yourself with well-known Christian leaders, what happens to your willingness to serve the people already near you?

- Ananias voiced a real concern before obeying. What does his response teach you about bringing fear to God while remaining willing to listen?
- Who has been an Ananias in your life through a quiet prayer, a timely conversation, or steady encouragement? What made that care meaningful?
- Tony jokes about having a résumé in heaven. Where might the desire to be noticed compete with your desire to help someone?
- How can you offer prayer and encouragement with humility, without assuming that you know another person's future or speaking your own wishes as God's promise?

Reflection Challenge

This week, notice one person you could encourage. Pray for wisdom, listen to what they actually need, and take one appropriate step of care. Let faithfulness be the goal, and entrust the results to God.

Ask yourself:

- Am I waiting for a large assignment while overlooking a simple opportunity to serve?
- What fear or assumption makes me hesitant to approach this person?
- Am I willing to care for them even if I never see a dramatic result?

Try this:

- Read Acts 9:10-20 slowly. Notice what the Lord tells Ananias and what Ananias does in response.
- Ask someone, 'How can I pray for you?' Listen before offering advice. Ask permission before laying a hand on their shoulder or praying with physical contact.
- Offer a brief, sincere prayer grounded in God's character. Keep personal impressions humble and open to Scripture and wise counsel; do not guarantee a particular outcome.
- Follow up with one practical act of kindness, and thank someone whose quiet faithfulness has helped you.

Remember

- You do not need a public platform to serve faithfully.
- Ananias's obedience mattered because God was at work.
- Bring your fears to the Lord, and remain willing to listen.
- Prayerful care begins by noticing and listening to a real person.
- Serve with humility, respect, and love; leave the outcome with God.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for working through ordinary people. Free me from comparison and the need to be noticed. Give me courage to care for someone I might overlook, patience to listen, and humility when I speak. Make my prayers truthful and loving. Help me recognize the next faithful step, and trust You with what follows.

In Jesus' name, Amen.