

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 11-30-25
Christianity 103 – Message 5 Part 1
Hypocrisy gets exposed.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Our faith grows as our knowledge, understanding and application of His Word takes place in our life.
- 2) Did you happen to examine your prayer list this past week?
- 3) As we worked our way through this prayer in Acts 4, we learned several things.
 - a) They wanted to be involved in what God was doing.
 - b) Asked God to stretch forth His hand to heal.
 - c) Asked God to make Himself known through “signs” and “wonders.”
 - d) When we pray, we make ourselves available to accomplish His will.
 - e) Their prayer revealed they understood God’s sovereignty.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) This story of Ananias and Sapphira is a familiar story to us.
- 2) George McDonald – “Half of the misery in the world comes from trying to look, instead of trying to be, what one is not.”
- 3) Christian hypocrisy.
 - a) The act of putting on a mask and then taking on a role to be something you are not.
 - b) Hypocrisy at its core is deliberate.
- 4) How does someone get caught up in this lifestyle?
 - a) Hypocrisy exposes a wrong view of self.
 - b) People are searching for their significance, worth and value, and if they cannot find it in Christ, –
- 5) Another key factor to this kind of life is pride.
- 6) For some, it is an issue of laziness.

2. How God moved in response to their prayer. Acts 4:31

a. God shook the place where they prayed.

- 1) The place was shaken and the believers were filled with the Spirit.

b. Minds are being transformed. Acts 4:32-36

- 1) Verse 32 – their unity extended to “the things which he possessed.”
- 2) Verse 33 – “great power.” – the enabling power of the Spirit of God.
 - a) “Great grace” – favor coupled with their testimony yielded much fruit.

c. The Body of Christ is meeting needs.

- 1) Verses 34-35 –
- 2) Do you see yourself as an owner or steward of the things you have been given?
- 3) Why did God do this?
- 4) What kind of Christian do you want to be?
 - a) John 13:34-35 –
- 5) What do you think the value is of what you have already been given in Christ?

d. Notice what was happening.

- 1) Verse 34 – What do we see?

e. We see an example that is given.

- 1) Verses 36-37 –
 - a) Barnabas sold a piece of property.

3. Ananias and Sapphira. Acts 5:1-11

a. Sold a possession.

- 1) Sold a piece of property.
 - b. Were they believers?
 - 1) Is there any evidence?
 - c. Why lie? What do they gain? Acts 5:2-4
 - 1) Verse 2 –
 - a) They decided to keep back part of the price.
 - b) They presented it as if it was the whole amount and not a part.
 - c) Application – what happens when we allow sin to remain in our lives?
 - 2) Verse 3 –
 - a) They were tempted to keep back part of the money.
 - b) Peter asked Ananias – “why hath satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost?”
 - 3) “satan hath filled thine heart” – influence of the mind for control.
 - a) Ananias and Sapphira must have believed they could “lie to the Holy Ghost.”
 - 4) Step back in time for a minute.
 - a) Think about how this played out between them.
 - b) Do you find that when you are wrestling with a decision that might be tough and cost you a little that satan seems to come in with a compromise that sounds good?
 - 5) Application – if satan cannot defeat the church from the outside, he will endeavor to get on the inside and work from there.
 - d. Peter asked some good questions. Acts 5:3-4
4. Church, wake up, you have an enemy who seeks your destruction.
 - a. Keeping short accounts is critical, if not, you are an easier target.
 - 1) What is keeping short accounts? Refusing to let any unconfessed sin remain in your life.
 - 2) When you reject the conviction of the Spirit, you are giving place to the devil. Eph. 4:27
 - b. Are you yet convinced?
 - 1) This story brings light to the instructions about your daily spiritual battles.
 - a) Eph. 6:11 –
 - b) Why do you need the armor?
 - c) Eph. 6:16 –
 - c. We are also aware that God will not be mocked.
 - 1) Galatians 6:7 –
 - 2) You cannot mock God.
 5. Today's Take Away:
 - a. CRUCIAL MOMENT – Verse 5
 - 1) What if –
 - 2) Short Accounts – Has the Lord identified any unconfessed sin in your life?