



## The Testing of the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-16)

*Questions: Week Eleven*

### Ananias and Sapphira - [Acts 5:1-11](#)

Topics: [Accusation](#), [Church](#), [Consequences](#), [Death](#), [Deceit](#), [Discipline](#), [Fear](#), [God](#), [Holy Spirit](#), [Insight](#), [Money](#), [Punishment](#), [Satan](#), [Sin](#)

#### Open It

1. \*When was a time you kept a gift that you had planned to give away?
2. If you found out that you had been deceived by someone you trusted, what would you do?
3. How do you know when someone is lying to you?

#### Explore It

4. What did Ananias and Sapphira sell? ([5:1](#))
5. How did Ananias and Sapphira's transaction compare with Barnabas's? ([5:1-2](#))
6. \*What did Ananias and Sapphira do with the proceeds from the sale of their property? ([5:1-2](#))
7. How did Peter recognize when he was being lied to? ([5:3-4](#))
8. To whom did Ananias lie? ([5:3-4](#))
9. \*What was Ananias's sin? ([5:3-4](#))
10. \*What was the consequence of Ananias's sin? ([5:5](#))
11. After listening to Peter's words, what happened to Ananias? ([5:5](#))
12. How did people respond to Ananias's death? ([5:5](#))
13. What was done with Ananias's body? ([5:6](#))
14. How long after Ananias's death did Sapphira come before Peter? ([5:7](#))
15. How did Peter test Sapphira? ([5:7-8](#))
16. How did Sapphira respond to Peter? ([5:8](#))
17. What rhetorical question did Peter ask Sapphira? ([5:9](#))

18. What devastating announcement did Peter make to Sapphira? ([5:9](#))
19. How did Sapphira's end compare with that of her husband? ([5:10](#))
20. How did the early church respond to these events? ([5:11](#))

### **Get It**

21. If there was deception in your church community, how would your church leaders handle it?
22. In what ways do we sometimes try to gain undue credit or recognition?
23. How could Ananias and Sapphira have acted differently?
24. When have you regretted your dealings with other Christians?
25. How do your Christian leaders deal with sin in the church?
26. How do you handle your own sin?
27. When have you been afraid of the Lord?
28. In what way is it appropriate to be afraid of God?
29. \*What do we tend to hold back from the Lord?
30. Why do we sometimes hold back in our giving to God?
31. \*What can we do to trust God to take care of us?
32. How can you help yourself be honest with God and with other Christians?

### **Apply It**

33. When can you set aside time this week to evaluate your motives for giving?
34. \*What act of sacrificial giving can you do this week? How?

## The Apostles Heal Many - [Acts 5:12-16](#)

Topics: [Believers](#), [Demons](#), [Faith](#), [Fear](#), [Healing](#), [Miracles](#), [People](#), [Reputation](#), [Sickness](#)

### Open It

1. When you're sick, what kind of patient do you tend to be (cranky, nervous, upbeat, distracted, etc.)?
2. If you were ill in the hospital, whose visit would probably be most comforting to you?
3. If you were a physician, what part of the job would you like best?
4. \*How did your mother take care of you when you were sick as a child?

### Explore It

5. \*What kind of work did the apostles do among the people? ([5:12](#))
6. Where did the believers meet? ([5:12](#))
7. Even though the Christians were highly thought of, why were some people afraid to join them? ([5:13](#))
8. \*Why did the people seek physical healing from the apostles? ([5:13-15](#))
9. Despite the fear which kept many people away, what happened to the Christian church during this time? ([5:14](#))
10. How did some people reveal both superstition and confidence in the apostles? ([5:13-16](#))
11. Why did some people feel that even Peter's shadow might help them? ([5:14-15](#))
12. From where did the people who gathered around the apostles come? ([5:16](#))
13. Besides the sick, who else was brought to the apostles for healing? ([5:16](#))
14. \*What happened to all those who came to be made well? ([5:16](#))

### **Get It**

15. How would you describe the reputation of the church in your community?
16. In what ways does your church help or serve those who are ill?
17. If you were ill, how might your church be able to help you?
18. \*When is it helpful or comforting to visit a sick person in the hospital or at home?
19. \*How can we reach out to those who are sick or ill?
20. If the sick were brought to your church for healing, what would your church leaders do?
21. How do you think your church could learn from the example of the early Christians in the way they took care of the physical and mental needs of people?

### **Apply It**

22. For whom can you pray today that God would heal his or her pain?
23. \*What are some of the ways you can serve those who are sick in your church?
24. What practical help can you provide this week for a church member who is ill?