The Book of Acts Week 7

Study Guide and Discussion Questions

You Don't Say?

Read Acts 5:1-11

- 1. Read Verses 5:1-2 What do Ananias and Sapphira do?
- 2. Read 5:3 Notice what Peter asks. Who does he say filled Ananias heart? Who has Ananias lied to?

3. In verse 5:4 Peter explains that the property belonged to Ananias fully. So why did he feel the need to lie, not to men but to God. Why do you think Ananias did this?

4. Verse 5:5 Ananias hearing these things drops dead!!! What??? This is a new "sign and wonder." What is the result of this?

5. Verse 5:7 Sapphira arrives 3 hours later. Peter asks her what was the price she received for selling the land? And what is her answer?

- 6. Sapphira was in agreement with her husband and she did as he did. Some could say that she was just being an obedient and faithful wife doing as her husband instructed. If this was the case why should she be punished? Is it not written that a woman should honor and obey her husband? Let's look at Ephesians 5:22-24
- 7. This argument obviously would not work for Sapphira. What can we interpret from that? Are not all scripture verses equal? Or do some take priority over others? Which verses would trump Ephesians 5:22-24? Let's look some up.

8. In verses 5:9-10 we see the same result come upon Sapphira as with Ananias, and in verse 5:11 it has the same result upon the church – and all who heard about it. In Verse 12 we see that the disciples continue to do signs and wonders, and were together in the temple.

However there is a shift now that the people have heard what happened to Ananias and Sapphira. What is the shift? Why do the people behave this way?

9. Does this hinder church growth? Let's look at verse 5:14.

10. In verse 5:15 we see the faith of the people by the things they do. Just as it is written

in James 2:17 *Faith without deeds is dead*. How do the people demonstrate their faith in the Lord?

11. Verse 5:16 the message of Jesus and news of the works of the Holy Spirit (signs, wonders, healings, deliverance) begins to spread beyond Jerusalem. Do you remember what Jesus said in Chapter 1? Let's look back at it – Acts Chapter 1:8. Write the mission Jesus gave the disciples (and us too):