

“Unfinished”
Acts 5
Sermon date 4/19/2026

Ice breaker

- 1) If social media disappeared tomorrow, what part of your life would feel most different?

Unpack It

What stood out to you from Sunday’s sermon and why? What was a takeaway or something that left you wondering about?

Looking Back

The early church in Jerusalem was experiencing rapid growth after the events of Pentecost. Believers were deeply unified, often sharing their possessions so that no one among them was in need. This radical generosity wasn’t coerced, it flowed from transformed hearts and a strong sense of community. Public acts of giving were visible, and figures like Barnabas were honored for their sincerity and sacrifice.

In this environment, Ananias and Sapphira chose to sell property but secretly withheld part of the money while presenting it as the full amount. Their sin wasn’t about the amount given, it was about deception and the desire to appear more spiritually devoted than they truly were. Through Peter, God exposes the lie, emphasizing that authenticity matters deeply in the life of the church. The result is sobering: a reminder that God cares not only about outward actions but inward truth.

Diving In

Read together: Acts 5

Diving Deeper

- 1) Why do you think Ananias and Sapphira felt the need to present a false version of their generosity?
- 2) What does this story reveal about God’s view of honesty within the church community?
- 3) How might the early believers have felt witnessing this event? What questions do you think it raised for them?

- 4) How does this story challenge the idea that “as long as I’m doing something good, my motives don’t matter”?
- 5) What is one step you can take toward living with greater integrity before God?
- 6) Who is a safe person in your life you can practice deeper honesty with this week?

Closing It Out With Prayer

1. Start with Silence (1–2 minutes)
Invite everyone to quietly reflect and ask God to reveal any areas where they’ve been tempted to live “for show” rather than in truth.
2. Scripture Anchor
Read Psalm 139:23–24 aloud: “Search me, God, and know my heart...”
3. Guided Prayer (Leader prompts, group responds silently or aloud):
4. “God, show me where I’ve been pretending...”
5. “Help me to walk in truth, even when it’s uncomfortable...”
6. “Thank You that Your grace meets me exactly where I am...”
7. Optional Sharing (if appropriate)
Allow space for 1–2 people to share briefly and be prayed for (keep it safe, not pressured).
8. Closing Prayer