

# THE POWER OF A CHANGED LIFE

## Lessons From a Church Service Gone Bad ACTS 5:1-11

### 2 reasons why God responded so severely:

#### A \_\_\_\_\_ reason (with God)

Ananias and Sapphira had felt the prompting of the Holy Spirit but became convinced by the enemy that they could scam God. (vv. 3, 8)

God made an example of this couple because they perpetrated sin during a key revelatory period in redemptive history. (v. 11)

#### A \_\_\_\_\_ reason (with believers)

This couple was virtue signaling and exemplifying to the early church an attitude that dishonored Jesus. (vv. 9-10)

God wanted to press on all generations of believers our responsibility to reflect truth and godly virtues to a lost world. (v. 4)

**AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IS SHAPED BY VIRTUES THE WORLD CANNOT GRASP.**

### The virtues of a changed life are:

#### \_\_\_\_\_, not pride (Jas 4:6; Prov 8:13)

When we're more concerned about our reputation than our character, there's no limit to what we will do.

#### \_\_\_\_\_, not greed (Jas 1:5; 1 Thes 2:5)

When the Holy Spirit reminds us of the generosity of Jesus, it should always open wide our hearts and pocketbooks.

#### \_\_\_\_\_, not hypocrisy (Jas 3:17; 1 Pet 2:1)

When we make truth, transparency and authenticity our highest priority, it attracts the world to Jesus.

*"It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular, it is why he does it."*

A. W. TOZER, *The Pursuit of God*

# THE POWER OF A CHANGED LIFE *Home Group Discussion*

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Where do you encounter *virtue signaling*\* in the world around you? When have you seen it in yourself?

2. Read Acts 5:1-11. How did the transaction of Ananias and Sapphira compare with the one Barnabas made in 4:36-37? Note as many details as you can.

3. How surprising to you is the idea that God cares about our motives? How do we truthfully examine our motives for doing anything in life?



"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less."

RICK WARREN

◀ 4. What response do you have to this quote?

5. Have you ever had an area of sin you thought God would overlook? How has He dealt with your sin previously, and what does He say in His Word say He will do about it going forward?

6. How can you search out any areas of hypocrisy in your life? How can you more purposefully strive to be honest with God and with other Christians?

\*Conspicuously displaying one's attentiveness to political issues (matters of social and racial justice, etc.), especially instead of taking effective action

## A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
  2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
  3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
  4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
- "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."*

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps).

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).

**ELDER PRAYER** God does extraordinary things when we go to Him in prayer, and we're excited to announce a time for us to do just that with the Elders and their wives! Whether it's simply an encouragement, or we seek God together for healing, this will be an impactful and intentional time with our leadership. Be a part of this special event today at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

**CCBC BIG BAND CONCERT** Everyone will be tapping their feet to the beat at this year's Big Band Concert, *On The Move*. Come be a part of the summer kickoff event on Friday, June 2 at 7 p.m. as the trumpets belt out captivating tunes for the whole family! To learn more visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/bigband](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/bigband).

**FORLIFE LUNCH WITH JAMIE C. FINN** As author and executive director of *Fostering the Family*, Jamie C. Finn is an expert and advocate for the foster and adoption community, and on Sunday, June 4 she'll be joining us for lunch from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Oak Room! From her first-hand experience of mothering biological, foster and adopted children, to the heart she has for the four hundred thousand children in the foster care system, we'll learn more about how we can make an impact. Read more about our lunch with Jamie C. Finn by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/fosteradopt](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/fosteradopt).

**WOMEN IN THE WORD: OUR FAVORITE STORIES** From toddlers to adults, everyone loves stories. Whether we are telling or hearing it, each of us has a favorite one. Ready to have a new favorite? Join Women in the Word this summer as they hear life-changing stories about Jesus and press into knowing Him deeper! Find times, locations and registration by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/wiww](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/wiww).

**BAND OF BROTHERS: THE GODLY MAN'S PICTURE** Are you looking to grow in your understanding of what it means to be a godly man? Come to Band of Brother's *The Godly Man's Picture*, a six-week study where we will dive into the lives of six different characters from the Bible. Find dates, locations and registration at [www.ccbcfamily.org/bob](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/bob).

**KIDS MINISTRY: SUMMER REFRESHER** Are you looking for a Be, Make and Reach opportunity this summer? Join our Summer Refresher Team and help so many of our dedicated Kids Ministry volunteers have a couple Sundays off. Register today by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/refresh](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/refresh).



**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023** Today is our Senior Sunday, and we're excited to celebrate the accomplishments of our high school seniors. Take a look at where they're heading off to next by scanning the QR code. Join us in celebrating and praying for their next chapter.



**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text CCBCONLINE to 833-422-7200 to get started.