

Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 4:31-5:11



The Story

The believers in the church in Jerusalem were like a big family. The believers were filled with the Holy Spirit. Each believer was filled with love for the others. They shared their possessions with those who were needy. Those who had land or houses sold them and brought the money to the apostles to give to those who were in need. Barnabas, a believer from the country of Cyprus, had land and sold it. He brought the money to the apostles to share with the needy.

Another man, named Ananias, and Sapphira, his wife, did not feel the same way that Barnabas felt. They sold some land, but they did not want to part with all that money. They wanted people to think they were giving everything for the Lord, but they decided to lie about it and to keep some of the money for themselves.

Ananias brought part of the money to the apostles and laid it before them.

Peter, through God's power, knew what was in Ananias's heart. He said to Ananias, "Why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it belonged to you, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not your own to use? Why have you planned this thing in your heart?"

You have not lied to men, but to God."

When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. Great fear came on all those who heard of these things. Some young men who were there rose up and wrapped Ananias in his robes, carried him out, and buried him.

About three hours later, Ananias's wife, Sapphira, came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, "Tell me, did you sell the land for this much?"

Sapphira answered, "Yes, for so much."

Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

Immediately, Sapphira fell down at Peter's feet, struck dead by the power of God. The young men came in and found her dead. They carried her out and buried her by her husband.

Great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things. They knew that God knows all things and has great power.

Review - Use these words to fill in the blanks.

lie share lie lied lie lies

1. A _____ is saying something that is not true.
2. Ananias and Sapphira decided to _____ when they made believe that they had given all their money to the church.
3. God says it is a sin to _____.
4. God showed that He knows when people tell _____. He knows all things.
5. God caused Ananias and Sapphira to die when Peter told them that they had _____ to God.
6. God wants His children to _____ what they have with others because they love God.

Talking to Jesus

Dear Jesus,

We thank You for giving Your life for our sins. We want to please God by not giving in to the devil when he tempts us to lie. Help us to show our love for You by always telling the truth. Please help us not to lie. Thank you, Jesus, for making us your children. Amen.

Passages

"He (*the devil*) is a liar and the father of it." John 8:44

The devil wants us to lie.

The Second Commandment

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

God doesn't want His children to use the Name of the LORD their God in the wrong way.

Activity One - Cut out the words in the boxes at the bottom of the page and glue them below to make The Second Commandment.

5 **your God**

1 **You shall**

4 **of the LORD**

6 **in vain.**

2 **not take**

3 **the name**