



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON 28

Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit

Acts 4:32--5:11

🌀 **Central Truth:** The Holy Spirit unites and purifies the church.

🔑 **Key Verse:** Acts 5:3-4

But Pete said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?
You have not lied to man, but to God.”

Lesson Outline

- ✓ The Holy Spirit unites God’s people. (4:32-37)
- ✓ The Holy Spirit is God. (5:1-4)
- ✓ The Holy Spirit purifies God’s people. (5:5-11)

Lesson Summary

As the church grew rapidly, believers were filled with the Spirit and were devoted to Jesus. This caused them to be united with a single passion and purpose in life. They were so united that they shared everything, even selling houses and field to provide for poor believers. But, Ananias and Sapphira lied about what they were giving in order to look good. The Holy Spirit exposed their lie and took their lives to guard the purity of the church.

Spotlight on the Gospel

By His death and resurrection, Jesus rescues sinners and turns them into the people of God. They become united with Him, like a body is united to its head. Because they are united with Him, they are also to be holy, since He is holy. Jesus provides the Holy Spirit to make holy living possible, but He also warns us of the seriousness of sin.

Supporting Truths

1. The Holy Spirit is God.
2. The Holy Spirit unites.
3. The Holy Spirit produces love.
4. The Holy Spirit purifies & protects.
5. The Holy Spirit loves truth & hates hypocrisy.



Lesson Questions

1. How did the Christians show they loved each others?
They shared everything they had.
2. Who was an example of a good giver? Barnabas.
3. Who lied to the Holy Spirit? Ananias and Sapphira.
4. Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is God!

Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit

- ❖ The Holy Spirit performed miracles through the apostles and united the believers in love. (Acts 2:43-45)
- ❖ Love sums up and fulfills the whole law. (Luke 10:27, Romans 13:9)
- ❖ We love because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19)
- ❖ What do you love most- your possessions? or Jesus and the people who belong to Him?

ACTS 4:32-5:11

Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³ And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶ Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷ sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Ananias and Sapphira

5 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, ² and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. ³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? ⁴ While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God." ⁵ When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. ⁶ The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

⁷ After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you^[a] sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much." ⁹ But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." ¹⁰ Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. ¹¹ And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.