

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | No Other Name

March 16, 2025 | "A Cautionary Tale: Ananias and Sapphira" | **Acts 5:1–16**

EXPOSITION:

- 1) A punishment _____ (5:1–6)
- 2) A mistake _____ (5:7–11)
- 3) A power _____ (5:12–16)

APPLICATION:

- 1) Deal quickly and decisively with _____
 - a. Root out every hint of _____
 - b. Get your _____ under control
 - c. Don't play the game of _____
- 2) Respect the church as the place of God's _____
- 3) Welcome fear as _____

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Acts 5:1–16. Why did the Lord (through the apostle Peter) deal so harshly with Ananias and Sapphira? What did this accomplish in the early church? Does God do similar things in the twenty-first century church? If so, how? If not, why not?

What does Acts 5:1–16 teach us about holiness? What does it teach us about God's utmost desire for the church? What does this passage teach us about God's hatred of sin? What does it teach us about the "fear of God?" What does it teach us about grace?

GET PERSONAL

What are some culturally acceptable, untruthful practices in our day? List some ways that you are tempted to be untruthful, deceitful, manipulative, or falsely pious. How do you battle those temptations? Does God's grace function as a motivator for holiness as well as a remedy for sin in your life?

Why is it important for church leaders to deal quickly and decisively with blatant, unrepentant sin in the church? Does condoning or ignoring corporate sin in the church restrict an outpouring of the Spirit's power?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Look through the applicational statements above and search your heart in those matters. Do you deal quickly and decisively with sin? Do you hide sin in your life? Do you play the "game" of spiritual pretense? How do we increase transparency in the church? How does shining light on the dark places of our hearts help us battle sin?

ADVANCED QUESTION

Fear is both positive and negative in the Bible (e.g. Prov 1:7; Job 28:28; 2 Tim 1:7; 1 John 4:18). List some positive "fears" in the Scripture. List some negative "fears." Is Luke's statement in Acts 5:11 positive or negative? Why? For help finding Scriptures that deal with this subject, type "fear" at the following web address:

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/>. Then type "fear of the Lord."