

WEEK 2

JANUARY 15, 2023

# LifeGroup Curriculum

Rival Gods: Status

1

## INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

God Encounters:  
Share some way  
you saw God  
interact in your  
life this week.

2

## MEMORY VERSE

Acts 5:4b

"...you have not  
lied to man, but  
to God."

3

## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 5:1-11

*"Ananias and Sapphira were a part of the biblical community in Jerusalem but their desire for status in the community was greater than their devotion to fulfilling their call as disciples. This week we walk through this difficult story that highlights Satan's role in opposition to the church and the Holy Spirit's work through them as well as this idol, Status, that he uses to draw them away from God's holy calling."*

## Discussion Questions

1. Read through the Scripture Passages listed above. Answer the question: What stands out to you?
2. What are your first thoughts about this story? How do you feel about the early church leadership? Ananias and Sapphira? God?
3. Why do you think God's punishment was so harsh in this instance?
4. Ananias and Sapphira desired to worship Jesus, but not devote all of their lives to Him. They wanted to have elevated status in the community of faith but not do the selfless work in order to maintain that community. What role does the rival god, "status," play in the church today?
5. Where have you (where do you) try to maintain status without authenticity in this life?
6. In light of this story, how should the church deal with sin and dishonesty in our community? (Be cautious to see the roles church members, church leadership and God Himself play in this story!)

