

ACTS 5 • WEEK 1

Acts 5 Week 1 Participation Guide

Young Adults

Authenticity in a curated world

BIG IDEA

Integrity before God matters more than image before people.

PRIEST LAKE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Forward & Higher Together

Prepare for the Study

Bring your Bible and this participation guide. Ask God for an open heart. We will read the entire chapter first, then return to Acts 5:1–11 for detailed study.

Keep the Passage Clear

- The passage is about planned deception, not a rule requiring believers to give away everything they own.
- It does not teach that every lie receives immediate physical judgment.
- Peter says that lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God.
- Holy fear should lead us toward truth, repentance, humility, and reverence—not manipulation or shame.

Read Acts 5 From Beginning to End

Read Acts 5:1–42 straight through. Do not stop to explain every verse yet. Listen for the five movements that carry the chapter forward.

Verses	Movement	What Happens
1–11	Integrity	God confronts deception inside the church.
12–16	Unity	The church remains united, visible, and fruitful.
17–25	Courage	God frees the apostles and sends them back to speak.
26–32	Obedience	The apostles obey God rather than people.
33–42	Perseverance	After suffering, they continue teaching and preaching Jesus.

What Stood Out to Me

As you heard the entire chapter, what word, action, warning, or promise caught your attention?

Return to Acts 5 Verses 1 Through 11

Week 1 focuses on the first movement. Compare Acts 4:36–37 with Acts 5:1–11. Barnabas gave honestly. Ananias and Sapphira wanted the appearance of surrender without telling the truth about their gift.

1 The Appearance of Surrender Acts 5:1–2

Their visible action looked generous, but their hidden plan did not match what they presented. Integrity means that our public witness and private choices agree.

2 The Exposure of Deception Acts 5:3–4

Peter addresses the lie in the heart, not merely the amount of money. Satan tempted Ananias, but Ananias remained responsible for welcoming and acting on the lie.

3 The Gift Was Voluntary Acts 5:4

They were free to keep the property or any part of the proceeds. Their sin was not failing to give everything. Their sin was pretending that a partial gift was the whole gift.

4 God Is Holy Acts 5:5–10

The immediate judgment is severe and belongs to a foundational moment in the church. The passage teaches that grace never makes calculated deception harmless.

5 A Reverent Church Acts 5:5 and 11

Great fear came upon the church. Holy fear is reverence, humility, and awareness that God is truly present among His people.

What is the clearest difference between Barnabas and this couple?

Young Adults Discussion and Reflection

Use the space below to record insights from the conversation and the next step God is showing you.

What makes a carefully curated identity attractive?

Where is the line between privacy and deception?

How can friends or dating partners become partners in avoidance instead of partners in truth?

What does integrity look like when no one can verify your story?

How does identity in Christ reduce the need for approval?

My Next Step

Choose one place where your image and reality are divided. Take one honest step that brings that area under Christ's rule.

What will I do, when will I do it, and who can help me follow through?

Prayer

Week 1 Summary

- Read Acts 5:1–42 as one chapter with five movements.
- Week 1 gives detailed attention to Acts 5:1–11.
- Ananias and Sapphira were free to keep the property or part of the money.
- Their sin was planned deception and spiritual image management.
- Lying to the Holy Spirit was lying to God.
- God’s holiness calls the church to truthful, reverent lives.
- Grace gives us a way to confess, repent, and walk in the light.

This Week

Tell God the full truth about one area you have been managing. Take one honest next step. If another person should be involved, choose someone safe, trustworthy, and spiritually mature.

Additional Notes
