

# LEADER PAGE | Acts | WEEK 7 of 30 | Sermon date: February 13, 2022

<u>Discipleship Phrase</u>: God's church, God's way.

Big Idea for Series: God's church is built on His principles.

## **Abiding** (grow as a disciple yourself)

The aim of group this week is to dive deeper into our generosity as well as the motives behind it. It's one thing to be generous yet careful examination of our motives can help reveal our integrity in our giving. Proverbs 10:9 says, "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out." That's exactly what happens to Ananias & Sapphira in this week's scripture reference, they get found out. Their lack of integrity, behind their generosity, was exposed. Before group this week, dig into the word and see what you can find on integrity. Write those verses down and then pray through them a few times before group. Seek God's will for you, your integrity, and your generosity through His word.

## **<u>Leading</u>** (facilitate your group effectively)

Generosity and integrity should be a desire and fundamental mindset of a Christian. Discussion this week is a great opportunity for your group to look at their own lives and see how it compares to the examples Jesus gave us. There are many areas that we can be generous. As the group ponders generosity, conversation typically focuses on money; however, there are other ways we can be generous. Ask more questions for the group to dig further. Question 3 moves into the topic of integrity and further challenges us – if we follow Christ, we should be more like Him. Integrity is doing what is right and acceptable before God. As you lead through this question, a deeper look at integrity could be: "How are you living out your life in private compared to the way you live in public?" Looking at your generosity is one of those ways you can focus on your will, your attitude, and intentions when fully living for God.

### **Shepherding** (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

Both generosity and the integrity are going to be covered this week. As you walk through these potentially challenging topics with your group, be mindful that this may be one of those weeks you need to lead the conversation in vulnerability. As those around you begin sharing where they are in this part of their journey, encourage appropriately throughout the coming week. Follow up with your folks, checking in to see if they have thought of different ways to display generosity and how their heart posture plays into their choices. Share with each person how God is working in you and next steps you plan to take to be generous.

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)
Connections Class is February 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 and March 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-3. Click <u>here</u> to register!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."



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Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose what fits best)

**Weekly Vision** (Announcements, The "Why", Goal, Outreach, Guidelines, & Branching)

<u>Guidelines</u>: Confidentiality, Avoid Crosstalk, Avoid fixing & Rescuing, Use "I" Statements, Contribute over Consume, Be Mindful of Self (allow all to share & use humor responsibly).

**Ask a Hook Question** (a thought-provoking question) In school, were you ever caught cheating on a test? If you didn't get caught, did you do it? How did it turn out?

**Recap the Message** (ask a <u>couple</u> people to share)

**Scripture References** (Read scriptures directly from the Bible) **Acts** 4:36-5:11 (ESV)

**Implications** (takeaways from the message)

- 1. You cannot fool God.
- 2. Everything we have belongs to God; we are simply the stewards.
- 3. If you are a follower of Jesus, generosity is not an option.
- 4. Abundance is a mindset.

#### **Discussion Questions** (going beyond the surface)

- 1. Read this week's Scripture Reference (above) out loud. Ananias & Sapphira displayed generosity through their giving yet how was the integrity of their generosity in question?
- 2. How are you displaying generosity in your life right now?
- 3. Lack of integrity, not the amount of generosity, cost Ananias & Sapphira their lives. Is there any area where you feel that you might be compromising your integrity under the guise of generosity?
- 4. Knowing our true motives behind our generosity can help locate our integrity. What's one way that this group can help encourage each other to walk in integrity?

**Prayer Requests** (Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

**Closing Prayer** (ask openly for a volunteer))