

# Week 3

## Discussion Group Questions

*His Kingdom Comes...In Boldness*  
*Acts 3-4:31*



1. \*What impacted you from last week's message?
2. \*Please give a summary statement of each section of the passage.
  - a. Acts 3:1-10
  - b. Acts 3:11-26
  - c. Acts 4:1-22
  - d. Acts 4:23-31
3. \*What do you think his attitude about himself would be after all these years?
4. \*What did Peter's offer to the man show about our desires vs. what God is ready to give to us?
5. \*How do you think this impacted his view of ~
  - a. Himself?
  - b. Other people?
  - c. The Lord?
6. \*What hope does Peter give the people in vs. 19-20? What does this tell you about the character of God?
7. \*What do you see in today's passage about God's ~
  - a. Sovereignty?
  - b. Wisdom?
  - c. Goodness?
8. \*Remember, Peter had denied Jesus three times on the night He was arrested. What evidence do you see of Peter's boldness in this passage, and what happened to instill such boldness in him?
9. \*Please compare the boldness of Peter with the authorities who confronted him. What was the difference in their motivation?
10. \*What does Peter and John's response to the leaders tell you about their faith in God's authority vs. their view of the leaders' authority?
11. \*After being threatened by the rulers, knowing what could come, please consider what the believers prayed for. How might they have prayed if they were praying from a heart of ~
  - a. Fear?
  - b. Anger?
  - c. Foolishness?
  - d. Despair?
12. \*What did the believers pray for, and what does that tell you about their faith in God's sovereignty, wisdom, and goodness?



# Week 3 Listening Guide

*His Kingdom Comes...in Love*  
*Acts 4:32-5:42*



1. The \_\_\_\_\_: Love. Share the \_\_\_\_\_ that God has given you freely and openly.  
(4:32-35)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ example: Barnabas. Be an \_\_\_\_\_ who selflessly gives and loves others  
as unto the Lord. (4:36)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ example: Ananias and Sapphira. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ as loving and spiritual just to look good before others, God sees the heart. (5:1-11)

# Week 3 Homework

*His Kingdom Comes...in Love*  
*Acts 4:32-5:42*



## Day One

**PRAY:** Ask the Lord to give you a deep love and appreciation for his church as you study today.

**MEMORIZE:** This week we will be memorizing Acts 5:38-39, Gamaliel's words to the council found at the end of our passage. Isn't it reassuring to know that God's plans and purposes always prevail? Read the passage now and write it on the lines or on a notecard so that you can easily review it throughout the week.

Acts 5:38b-39: "for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!"

**STUDY:** Today we will get an overview of the passage for the week. Begin your study time by reading the passage, Acts 4:32-5:42.

1. Summarize each section of the passage below with a short phrase or sentence.

a. Acts 4:32-36

b. Acts 5:1-11

c. Acts 5:12-16

d. Acts 5:17-42

2. \*What do you notice about the progression of these events in the history of the early church? How do the power (Acts 4:33), grace (Acts 4:33), and fear (Acts 5:11) of the Lord affect the church and those around them?

3. \*What does this passage tell you about God's authority and the role of the church?

---

---

Close in prayer, asking the Lord to give you insight and wisdom and a love for his church as you study this week.

## *Day Two*

**PRAY:** Ask the Lord to help you to see new ways to pursue unity in our church as you study today.

**MEMORIZE:** Review your memory verse. Fill in the blanks below.

Acts 5:38b-39: "for if this \_\_\_\_\_ or this \_\_\_\_\_ is of \_\_\_\_\_, it will \_\_\_\_\_; but if it is of \_\_\_\_\_, you will not be able to \_\_\_\_\_ them. You might \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ God!"

**STUDY:** Our focus today will be Acts 4:32-36. As you study, be thinking about the example that the early church sets for us, and how your own life compares to what you see in them.

1. For the early church, how was their great unity demonstrated and visible to those around them?

---

---

2. What ways do you see God at work in these verses?

---

---

3. \*What individual characteristics do you see which contributed to the unity and oneness that the body experienced? Do you see these same characteristics in your own heart?

---

---

4. \*What can you do to promote unity in the body of believers in our own church? How can you be a better steward of the possessions that God has given you in regards to the needs of our own body and the believers around you?

---

---

Close in prayer. Tell the Lord one way that you want to promote unity in His church, and ask the Lord to empower you with his grace to do so.

## *Day Three*

---

**PRAY:** Ask God to reveal any areas of sin and hypocrisy in your heart as you study today.

**MEMORIZE:** Review your memory verse now. Say the verse out loud a few times, emphasizing different words each time. Thank the Lord for his purposes and plans that will prevail in your own life.

---

---

**STUDY:** Today we will focus on two people in the early church whose hearts did not seek the unity that God calls us to. Begin by reading Acts 5:1-11 and then answer the questions.

1. \*What do you think motivated Ananias and Sapphira's sinful response?

---

---

2. Are there any times or ways that you are tempted to look more spiritual before other people? How can this story encourage you to be honest and transparent?

---

---

3. \*In verse 3, Peter tells Ananias that Satan had "filled (or controlled) his heart to lie to the Holy Spirit". What does it look like for a believer to allow the flesh to control them and what does it look like for a believer to be controlled by the Holy Spirit? Read Romans 8:5-13 and record what you learn.

---

---

4. Think about the past few days. What have you allowed to control you, the flesh or the Spirit? What proof do you have of what you are choosing to be controlled by?

---

---

Close in prayer as you take some time to listen to the Lord and allow Him to search your heart. Cry out to Him about one area of your life that you want to surrender to Him in a fresh way, allowing Him to control and lead you.

## Day Four

---

**PRAY:** Ask the Lord to help you trust his goodness, power, and wisdom as you study today.

**MEMORIZE:** Try to recall Acts 5:38b-39 from memory. Write it on the lines.

---

---

**STUDY:** Our focus today will be Acts 5:12-16. Judgment has just fallen on Ananias and Sapphira, and Acts 5:11 says that because of this, “Great fear came on all the church, and on all that heard these things.” Be thinking about how God used these events to draw people to himself as you study. Begin by reading the passage.

1. \*Look at verses 12-14. What were some of the outcomes of all the things that have just transpired? What was the result of the purifying of the church?

---

---

2. Is this what you would expect as a result of God’s judgment on Ananias and Sapphira? Why or why not?

---

---

3. Look at some specifics now.

a. In verse 12, how many signs and wonders were done at the hands of the apostles by the power of God?

---

---

b. In verse 14, how many men and women were added to the Lord and the body of Christ as a result of these events?

---

---

c. In verse 16, how many people were healed by the power of the Lord through Peter?

---

---

4. \*What is your reaction to the way that the Lord worked in the early church during this time? How can these events encourage and influence us as a church today?

---

---

Close in prayer, thanking the Lord that he is all powerful and telling him about one thing you want to apply to your life today from what you have learned and read.



## *Day Five*

---

**PRAY:** Ask the Lord to empower you to see ways you can boldly obey Him as you study.

**MEMORIZE:** Review Acts 5:38b-39. In what ways does this verse relate to what you have learned about the church in Acts so far?

**STUDY:** Today we will conclude Acts 5 by studying verses 17-42. As the apostles and believers follow the Lord, they encounter conflict. But they are not discouraged, rather they boldly walk in obedience, speaking to all that the Christ is Jesus! Be thinking about what you can learn from their bold obedience as you study today.

1. As the apostles are rescued from prison by the Lord's angel, they are commanded to "speak to the people all the words of this life". What does this command teach you about the importance of sharing the Word?

---

2. \*What are some times where Peter's response to the high priest would be applicable in your own life, "We must obey God rather than men." When might this response be an excuse to do what I want rather than what is right?

---

3. Look at Gamaliel's words to the council in verses 38-39. In what areas of your own life could you be opposing God? What can you do to submit to God's rule and ways today?

---

4. \*Think about the apostles' response in verse 41-42 to the persecution they faced. How can their response encourage and help you when you face trials and suffering?

---

Close in prayer, telling the Lord one way you want to apply what you have learned over the course of this week.

