

Acts 5

Observation Questions, "What does the passage say?"

Acts 5:1-16

1. Who are the main characters of verses 1-6?
2. What did they do?
3. What happens to them?
4. Who does Peter say fills the heart of Ananias?
5. Who does Peter say that he lies to?
6. What does Peter tell him about the property?
7. Who buried him?
8. How much time elapses between Ananias and Sapphira's confrontation?
9. What is the response of the church?
10. What are we told the apostles are able to do?
11. What is the description of the church and its' growth?

Interpretation: What does this passage mean?

Acts 5:1-16

1. What does this passage teach us about giving?
2. What does this passage teach us about lying?
3. What does this passage teach us about God and the Holy Spirit?
4. What does this passage teach us about Peter and his authority?
5. Verse 13 says that the people held them (the people who made up the church) with high esteem. Why?
6. What do you make of the apostles ability to perform signs and wonders?

Application: What does the passage mean to me?

Acts 5:1-16

1. Are you held in high esteem by your non-Christian and Christian associations? Why, or why not? What needs to happen in order for this to happen?
2. Is our church held in high esteem by outsiders? Why or why not? By insiders? Why or why not?
3. Would you be willing to sell your property and give it to the Lord's ministry? How would you know if God were asking you to do so?

Observation Questions, "What does the passage say?"

Acts 5:17-42

12. Who are the main characters of verses 17-42?
13. Who is thrown into jail?
14. What happens to them? How do they get out of prison?
15. What are they told to preach, where are they told to preach?
16. How are the guards told to re-arrest the apostles?
17. What does the leadership say to the apostles when they retrieve them?
18. How does Peter respond?
19. What is Gamaliel's advice to the Council?
20. What punishment is imposed on the apostles?
21. What is their response?

Interpretation: What does this passage mean?

Acts 5:17-42

7. What does the angel of the Lord opening the prison remind you of?
8. What is the "whole message of this Life"? (verse 20)
9. Explain the phrase: "we must obey God rather than men." How does that apply to us today?
10. In verses 30-32 the trinity is spoken of. What are their different functions according to these verses?
11. What other questions do you have that need to be answered from this passage?
12. Compare verse 41 with 1 Peter 4:13-16; Romans 5:3; 2 Corinthians 12:10; Philippians 1:29; Hebrews 10:34; James 1:2. What was the early church's view of suffering?
13. Verse 32 says that the Spirit is given to those who obey Him. Can you explain this?

Application: What does the passage mean to me?

Acts 5:17-42

4. What is the most you have had to suffer for the sake of the kingdom? Is that a problem? Should you be suffering more? Is it a necessary part of your Christian experience to suffer?
5. Are you as excited as the apostles obviously were to share your faith, to teach that Jesus is the Christ?
6. What are some areas where we have tension when following the law of the land? Are there any current tensions between obeying God and obeying man?