



Oakwood

CHURCH

November 29 Discussion Questions

“Generous Fellowship”

Acts 4:32-37; 5:1-11

Preview

Barnabas - An Inspiring Example

- **Love** for One Another (4:32a)
- Faithful **Stewardship** (4:32b, 36-37)
- **Sacrificial** Generosity (4:34)

*“The question is not how much of **my** money I give to God, but rather how much of **God’s** money I keep for myself.” R.G. LeTourneau*

Ananias - A Sobering Warning

- **Satan** is active, even in the best churches (5:2-3)
- The Heart is **Deceitful** (5:4; Joshua 7:21)
- **Hypocrisy** destroys community (5:5)

Connect

1. What was the best food you ate during the Thanksgiving weekend? What conversation or memory meant the most to you?
2. What are you looking forward to most as you move towards Christmas?

Read Acts 4:32-37; 5:1-11

Discuss

3. What characterized the early church according to 4:32-37?

4. In what ways do you think Oakwood would be different if we truly were of “one heart and soul?”
5. How do v.34-35 make you feel? What inspires someone to radically give in this way?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 8:9. What did Jesus do to demonstrate His love? In what way are we to follow in Jesus’ footsteps?
7. In what ways is Ananias different from Barnabas? What internal motivations most likely drove them both?
8. What is a hypocrite? How did Ananias and Sapphira act like hypocrites? Why is hypocrisy such a hindrance to the unity and progress of the church?
9. Why do you think God allowed the tragic deaths of Ananias and Sapphira? How was this event similar to the sin of Achan in Joshua 7?

Apply

10. What are the four kinds of giving mentioned by Pastor Darin? Which one most characterizes the condition of your heart right now?
11. In what way might God be calling you to give - in a radical, extraordinary way like Barnabas or a simple act of faith and obedience like the widow in Mark 12:41-44?
12. In what ways, big or small, have you been a hypocrite? Do you tend to be oblivious to this or do you bury yourself in guilt? Is your heart quick to seek forgiveness and help?

Pray

Spend time asking God to grant you a greater heart of generosity for the needs around you. Also ask God to reveal the areas of your life that you are a hypocrite. Ask for forgiveness and seek the power to change.

Church-Wide Prayer Focus, from the Prayer Team

Personal Prayer Focus: Pray God would give us sincere generosity as we prioritize our giving to Oakwood ministries.

Ministry Prayer Focus: Pray for God’s wisdom as the ministries of Oakwood decide how best to use the funds they’ve been provided. Ask for God’s blessing on the use of their funds.