

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"IT'S A BAD IDEA TO LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT: ANANIAS & SAPPHIRA" AUG. 21 & 22

SERIES OVERVIEW:

You are NOT disqualified from real life with God, even though life is messy. Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking we are beyond hope when we find ourselves battling the same sins and temptations. Having a clear understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus means that we are forgiven, walking in grace and NOT perfect. We are a work in progress, and so are the people around us. As we learn to know God better and better, He equips us with everything we need to live in His will and be pleasing in His sight. (Hebrews 13:21)

*Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc.
Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.*

1

OPENING PRAYER:

About 2 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer. Consider reading Psalm 139:1-17 as part of the opening prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read

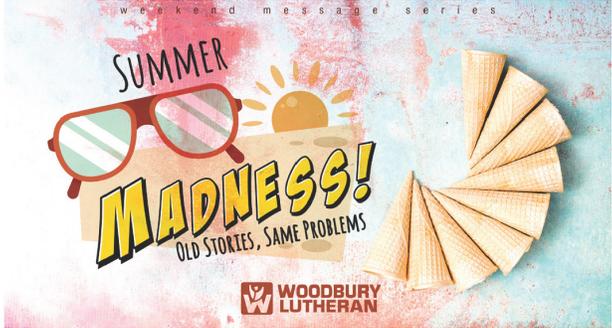
God has freely given to us and invites us to live lives of joyful generosity. The Holy Spirit that God has given to us prompts us to live open handedly. When we refuse to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting, we grieve and quench the Holy Spirit that is in us. However, living in obedience is a life of freedom and joy.

3

INTRO QUESTION:

About 10 minutes

Share a high and a low since the group last met. How have you seen God show up recently?



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Then Peter said, "Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself."
- Acts 5:3 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Acts 5:1-11.
What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like? Be curious...and then do it.

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Read the entire scripture passage aloud as a group and discuss the questions on the card above. Use the [Discussion Help sidebar](#) to encourage deeper discussion.

Read Acts 4:32-37. Describe the community of believers Ananias and Sapphira were part of.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:19. Can you think of a time you felt the pang of conviction from the Holy Spirit correcting you? Describe what that experience was like for you and what you did as a result. What encouragement do you receive from 1 Thessalonians 5:23-25?



DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 15 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps listed.

TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out

Pray about what it might look like to live MORE open-handed, MORE generously this week. Then create an intentional plan and take a courageous step to live this out.

Pray

Ask God to show you any areas of your life where you have not been honest with him. If he reveals something, simply repent of this.

Ask God to show you what might it look like to live MORE open-handed, MORE generously this week?

Thank God for his generosity toward you as demonstrated in sending Jesus.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 5 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

Share prayer requests. Pray for the person on your LEFT. The leader or apprentice will open and close the prayer.