

Viral: What's Filling Your Heart?

Darcy Siggelkow

Read Acts 4:32–37; Acts 5:1–2; 2 Corinthians 9:7

Question: What are some of the questions about God and church that come to mind from Acts 5?

The issue with Ananias and Sapphira was not *what* they gave. It was *why* they gave.

1. Motives

Motives answer the ‘why’ question:

“Why do you do what you do?”

The Bible never calls any act or action “right” in and of itself. You can’t separate *what* you do from *why* you do it.

If one’s motives are wrong, nothing can be right.

Arthur Gordon

Read 1 Corinthians 4:5

Two motives that may have driven Ananias and Sapphira:

- the love of money
- the love of praise and prestige

Read Acts 5:3–4

Question: What example from your life best showed the motives of your actions whether good or bad?

2. Secrets

There is no such thing as a secret.

Question: How does the truth of God knowing all things make confession easier?

Read 1 John 1:9; Acts 5:5–6, 9

Question: How does looking at this difficult passage change when you look at it, not from the perspective of an angry God, but the seriousness of sin?

3. Hypocrisy

A hypocrite is someone who doesn’t practice what they preach.

Almost every issue Jesus had with the Pharisees revolved around the issue of pride or greed.

The key question in the story:

Acts 5:3 (NLT) Then Peter said, “Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? “

Read 1 Peter 5:8–9; Proverbs 4:23; James 4:7–8

Questions: What are ways that “guarding your heart” looks like in your life? How do you determine what your heart is filled with? What is filling your heart?