



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, January 31, 2021 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“Holy Spirit Discipline in the Church”

Acts 5:1-11

1. The fearful holiness of God (Acts 5:1-6)
2. The danger of family cover-up of sin (Acts 5:7-11)

Table Talk

- 1) How do these verses show us that the first church was not perfect? What was Ananias' sin? What temptations do you have to "look the part" while holding back?
- 2) How does Peter know what Ananias has done? What part did Satan play in Ananias' sin? How much awareness do you have that Satan tries to "fill your heart"? In what ways have you seen Satan fill the hearts of professing believers? (v. 3)
- 3) How does Peter affirm the right to private property? Why would Ananias not simply have told everyone that he was giving only part of the proceeds of the sale? Although Peter blames Satan in verse 3 for this sin, whose responsibility is this sin in verse 4? To whom did Ananias lie, according to verse 3? To whom, according to verse 4? What does that say about the Holy Spirit?
- 4) What happened to Ananias? Did the punishment fit the crime? Why or why not? What other instances do we read in scripture of people dying because of their sin? What does this say about the holiness of God? About the holiness of God's community? What was the response of the church to Ananias' death? If you were one of the "young men," what would you be thinking? (vv. 5-6)
- 5) What does Sapphira say in answer to Peter's question? How does this confirm her guilt in conspiring to lie? How are families tempted to cover-up sin? Where does family "loyalty" end on matters like this? If you were one of the young men, what would you be thinking now? (vv. 7-10)
- 6) Compare verse 5 and verse 11. What is the same, and what is different? How do you think this event shaped the church? How do you think it affected the authenticity of the church? What lessons are here for East White Oak Bible Church as a community seeking to be worshipers, maturing in Christ?