

**DEALING WITH DISHONESTY**

Acts 4:32 – 5:11

This discussion is based on the Friday Morning Men’s Fellowship study “Acts of Leadership”, available at https://leadmin.org/acts.



Use one of these to get the group talking about today’s topic:

• Share two truths and a lie—that is, two facts about yourself that are true, and one that is a lie. Ask everyone at your table to guess which one is a lie.

• Have you ever tried to bluff in a card game? What makes a card player good at bluffing?

• How do you act when it’s difficult to be honest? Do you respond with kindness, even if it’s not entirely truthful? Example: “Does this outfit make me look fat?”



Go in-depth with these questions. Based on your available time, choose 3-4 that you believe are most thought-provoking:

• Read Acts 4:32-35. What was the attitude of the believers about their possessions? Why do you think they acted this way?

• Read Acts 5:1-4. Why do you believe it was wrong for Ananias and Sapphira to keep back a portion of their property sale for themselves?

• What was Peter’s reaction to Ananias and Sapphira?

• What would you do as a leader if faced with a similar situation today?

• Read Acts 5:5. What was the price of Ananias’ and Sapphira’s lie? What was the lesson that God was trying to teach the believers through this?

• Read Acts 5:7-11. Here’s another account of a person lying with the same result. As a leader, does this account concern you about the seriousness of honesty with God?

• How would you counsel people around you about honesty given these Bible accounts?



• Do you have an area of your life or leadership where you are not being completely honest with God and those around you? How might you improve in truthful leadership this week?

• Are you giving a full measure back to God through your financial and personal stewardship? If not, can you be more generous at your next opportunity? What might God expect of you in stewardship based on your standard of living?



• Commentary on Acts 5: <https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/mhc/Act/Act_005.cfm>

• What does Acts 5 mean? <https://www.bibleref.com/Acts/5/Acts-chapter-5.html>

• *The Story of Ananias and Sapphria* by William Andrus Alcott: <https://www.amazon.com/Story-Ananias-Sapphira-Classic-Reprint/dp/0259504025>

• *The Power of Honesty and Integrity* Bible study: <https://www.livingwordchapel.org/bible-study-notes/the-power-of-honesty-and-integrity/>

• *Telling the Truth* by Doug Britton, MFT: <https://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/onlinebiblestudies-personalgrowthanddevelopment/donotlie-tellthetruth-t19-1/>

• *Acts: An Expositional Commentary* by R.C. Sproul: <https://www.amazon.com/Acts-Expositional-Commentary-R-C-Sproul/dp/1642891851>

• *Life Lessons from Acts* by Max Lucado: <https://www.amazon.com/Life-Lessons-Acts-Max-Lucado/dp/0310086388>

*• Acts Bible Study* by Kendra Graham: <https://thecove.org/blog/kendras-bible-studyacts-18/>

**More ways to apply “Dealing with Dishonesty” to your life and leadership:**

• Do you have a policy regarding dishonesty and fraud for your organization? Consider developing a written plan to deal with dishonesty if you do not already have one.

• Talk with your spouse and family (children) this week about the importance of honesty and integrity in life and leadership. Read through Scriptures to discover what God says about dishonesty, and discuss the cost of dishonesty toward each other and toward God.

• Consider the example of the believers in Acts 4:32-35. Think about ways you might pool resources with other believers to help those in your community.

• Conduct a personal “honesty audit” in your life and leadership. Go through your various areas of stewardship, finances, time management, family time, leadership development, etc. Are you giving your best in each of these areas? Is there a place where you might be more generous with your resources, time, experience?

• Consider how your business or company might be a Gospel influence with your employees, customers or in your community.

• If you don’t already, set up giving to your local church as a recurring part of your monthly budget.

*The resources and links mentioned above are given to encourage further study. They’re not exhaustive and may contain various viewpoints on Scripture that differ from your own theological beliefs. Friday Morning Men’s Fellowship doesn’t endorse any specific author, and encourages you to study the Scriptures thoroughly and rely on the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts and actions.*