

# Are You a Disciple?

## *Honesty – It Can Save Your Life*

Acts 5:1-11

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### Introduction:

- This morning, we will be looking at lying.
  - At the same time, I am not advocating being BRUTAL with the truth ... Many people do this, and they are seen as rude ... arrogant ... and not merciful in any way at all.
  - **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:15**
  - **James 1:12-15**
  - **Acts 5:1-11**
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### 1. Desire:

- a. **Acts 5:1-2**
- b. Why do we desire to be dishonest?
- c. **Acts 4:36-37**
- d. There are four basic reasons we desire to be dishonest:
  - i. It makes us look good – **2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 1:9-10**
  - ii. To justify what we do –
  - iii. To cover up the Truth – **Genesis 3:1 ... Genesis 4:9**
  - iv. To get what we want – **Matthew 2:8**

### 2. Disobedience:

- a. **Acts 5:3**
- b. LET ME FIRST CLEAR UP ANY CONFUSION ... The fact that Ananias sold property and only gave a portion of the money to the church, is NOT the sin.
- c. **Acts 5:4**
- d. Greek – Nosphizo ... English – Kept back ... “*To hold back ... to steal.*”
- e. **Joshua 7** – Achan
- f. According to Webster’s ... **Hypocrite** – “A Person that professes beliefs and opinions that he or she does not hold in order to hide their real feelings or motives.”
- g. Another name for a hypocrite is a “Poser” ... “Imposter” ... “Phony” ... “Fraud” ... “Pretender.”

- h. There are THREE steps involved in any sin:
  - i. Allowing the enemy to pull you away from God with temptation –
  - ii. You know God's command and you still go against it –
  - iii. You choose your will over God's –
- i. **Acts 5:5**

### 3. Death:

- a. When we overlook sin, we need to remember, these same sins are the very reason that Jesus died on the Cross.
- b. When you think of it that way ... it now becomes something that is not only serious ... BUT ... it is also spiritually deadly.
- c. Sin can still bring immediate death:
  - i. Sin can still bring immediate death to our relationships –
  - ii. Sin can still bring immediate death to our integrity – **Proverbs 10:9 ... 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:12**
  - iii. Sin can still bring immediate death to our character –
  - iv. Sin can still bring immediate death to our witness –
- d. Unlike your relationship with Jesus ... which can be resurrected through your forgiveness, some of these other things that we mentioned sometimes cannot be. They will remain in a permanent state of death.