

# CHURCH ON THE MOVE

Acts 5:1-6

## BIG IDEA

Integrity is a necessary ingredient for the Spirit's power being present in our worship and in our mission.

## INTRO TO THE FAMILY GUIDE

Thank you for opening this guide. We are glad that you've decided to *continue the conversation*. Below you will find discussion questions geared toward adults and families. Whatever unit you are in, we would love for you to interact with each other and dig deeper into what we learned today. If you are alone, feel free to pick up the phone to call, text, or digitally interact with a friend on these questions.

The age-based questions for families cover 4 different stages of life—preschoolers, elementary students, middle schoolers, and teens. Parents, it's always awesome to model vulnerability with your children, so, even though each section does not specifically invite parents to share please do so.

## SUMMARY FOR THIS WEEK

Dante Alighieri wrote in his book, "The Divine Comedy," that the lowest level of hell was deserving of the three worst sinners. According to Dante they were the worst because of their sin of betrayal. Treason is defined as a person who pretends to be one thing in order to build trust and then he does another thing. We do tend to see betrayal as the worst of sins. We hate to be betrayed.

In the early church we see the huge "dragon of opposition" from religious leaders and then in Acts 5 we have another dragon. This dragon is within the church and it has to do with money and deceit. Imagine having two people in our church die within hours of each other and we ALL KNOW it's because of their sin. This is exactly what happens in Acts chapter 5. Ananias and Sapphira's deceit regarding money leads to their death. This reminds us of another story in Joshua chapter 7. Achan died as a result of his deceit and betrayal and this too was in regard to money. God, in His tremendous love for us, is sending a vital message to us that deceit does immense damage. Money is always at our

doorstep trying to be our god. Money is one of the mightiest false gods to tug on our heart.

## **PRESCHOOL**

1. Have you ever made a pinky promise? If you have that means you and another person promised to do something. It means that you and that other person trust each other and that you believe that both of you will keep your promise. Who is somebody you trust? It could be Mom or Dad or maybe Grandpa or Grandma.
2. Did you know that God never breaks his promises? We can trust God no matter what because he is always with us and will never leave us! In the story of Noah, he built a big boat when God flooded the world. God sent a rainbow after the flood. That rainbow was a sign from God to Noah promising that God would never flood the earth again! And He hasn't! Everytime we see a rainbow we can remember that God is trustworthy.
3. What are a few ways you can show God and the people around you that they can trust you this week?

## **ELEMENTARY**

1. Who is someone that you trust? Why do you trust them?
2. Did you know that you can trust God no matter what? God never breaks His promises! He is always with us and He is worthy of our praise! Can you think of some examples in the Bible where God kept his promises? (Noah's ark, Abraham's descendants, and the promise to send a Savior.)
3. Sometimes it is hard to trust other people or God. And sometimes it is really hard for other people to trust us. What is something you can do that will show you are trustworthy?

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

1. Who is someone that you trust? Why do you trust this person?
2. Has someone ever broken your trust before? Maybe they made a promise and didn't keep it or they seemed like a friend and then turned out to be the opposite.
3. Can people trust you? What are some things you can do to become a more trustworthy person both to other people and to God?
4. It's good to remember that God is totally trustworthy. He's never broken a promise and He never will.

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

1. Who do you trust a lot? What makes that person trustworthy? What impact on you does this trustworthy person have?

2. Have you ever been betrayed by a close friend, a family member or an employer? Share with the group how you felt about it at the time? Share how you feel about that person today.
3. What core longing or core value do you think betrayal violates? Next pause and reflect on how the heart of God has felt our betrayal. What has been His response to us?

## **Adults**

1. Have you ever been betrayed by a close friend, a family member or an employer? Share with the group how you felt about it at the time. Share how you feel about that person today.
2. What core longing or core value do you think betrayal violates? Next, pause and reflect on how the heart of God has felt our betrayal. What has been His response?
3. Share how you are doing with your giving with a friend or your family. Do you like your current level of giving? What may be getting in the way for you and what is helping you? We can begin to see the huge love God for us as he tells us to tithe. It's like an antibody to the virus of selfishness, deceit and betrayal. We must give in order to cure us from this false god. Giving breaks its grip!