**Murray Baptist Church – May 12, 2020 / Acts 5 – Power In the Process**

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| **Verse(s)** | **Focus** | **Connections** | **Takeaways** |
| Acts 4:32-36 |  | Unity, fellowship, cohesion |  |
|  |  | Culture of sharing vs. Culture of greed |  |
| 5:1 | Ananias and Sapphira | * United to each other not with the disciples * Represent conspiracy and fraud | They have the appearance of the church (bringing resources to contribute) but lack the foundation of the church (honest motives) |
| 5:2 | Kept back, help back - Conspiracy and fraud | Joshua 7:1-26 (Structurally the stories are similar, can you compare and point out the similarities? | There is a danger is holding back something that belongs to God; there is a danger is holding on to what God doesn’t want you to have; There are consequences for willing disobedience |
| 5:3-4 | Peter’s conversation with Ananias – Satan has filled your heart…you have lied to the Holy Spirit | One of Luke’s reasons for betrayal – Satan has filled someone’s heart. See Judas (Luke 22:3)  Luke 22:31 – (Jesus tell Peter Satan will seek him out) |  |
|  | Subtheme 1: Luke Continues to imply the comparison between the OT prophets and the empowered Apostles | To see into the heart of others is the mark of a prophet (Luke 5:22; 7:39; 9:47; 24:38) |  |
|  | Subtheme 2: Satan vs. The Holy Spirit | Spirit of sharing (HS) vs Spirit of fraud (Satan)  Apostolic Power of the 12 vs. Conspiracy to shatter unity  Open intentions vs. Conspiracy to commit fraud |  |
| 5-6 | God took care of the matter, Peter did not | The consequence is severe, the offense by lying to God. | Be honest with God he knows your heart anyway in spite of what you say |
| 7-10 | Peter’s conversation with Sapphira | She doesn’t know her husband is dead; She confirms the lie and suffers the consequences |  |
| 11 | Fear impacted the whole church | See 5:5 | Fear/Awe is common in luke’s telling of stories; Luke point is show the growing authority of the apostles; this story is about their power in a negative example. |
| 12-16 |  | * Believers meeting together w/o a priest * More people were believing * The sick were getting healed without human intervention   Apostles are demonstrating fulfillment of the prayer in 4:30 | Be careful what you pray for you just might get it |
| 17-28 | Persecution Begins | Apostles arrested for what they were doing  Released by an angel  Given instructions – tell about the new life, not about the new or old church – but the new life  Sanhedrin assembled to talk to the apostles – but the apostles couldn’t be found in jail  v. 28 tells us the motivation for why the apostles were arrested and the religious leaders despised them |  |
| 29-32 | The apostles respond | We choose God over human beings |  |
| 33-39 | Wisdom of God discussed and displayed through | Gamaliel – was the one who taught St. Paul in his formative years on how to be an observant Jew | If something is of God, no matter what anyone does – it can’t be stopped. |
| 40-42 | Response to Persecution | Rejoicing, renewed desire to teach and proclaim the good new | What is your response for what God is doing in your life? |