
Application Guide: Acts 5

1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. What is the biggest lie you personally know of someone telling? Did they ever get caught? How do you think they felt about the experience?

- b. Have you ever seen a miracle personally? Have your parents or grandparents told you about any miracles they have seen? Do you believe miracles really do happen?

2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

Background: In the early church, people were very generous with what they had. Everyone shared what they had with whomever was in need. Yet in the midst of this loving, giving period in church history, people were still tempted to lie.

Do you think it is easier to tell the truth today, or is it easier to lie? Why?

Do you think you would have been more generous back in Acts 5 than you are today? Why?

Picture it: Imagine you were alive during the time of the early church described in Acts 5. Imagine being in the crowds where the apostles were performing miracles and preaching. Imagine that your brother was healed when Peter's shadow passed over him. Do you think you would want to become a member of this church? Why?

Even though there were incredible miracles happening everywhere as the Holy Spirit was being poured out and thousands of people were becoming Christians, there were still many people who chose not to believe in what they saw happening all around them. How do you think people tried to rationalize away all the miracles? Why do you think some people are so resistant to the influence of the Holy Spirit?

Do you think our day is really that much different than the days of Acts 5? Do you think it is harder to believe in Jesus today or back then? Why?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

a. Take some time to search the Internet for modern day miracle stories. What can you do to put yourself in a position where you might have a better chance to see modern-day miracles?

b. Try to be more aware of the miracles that may be happening around you. What can you do to be more in tune with God's working in your world?

c. Ask God to help you be a part of a miracle in someone else's life. Think of a prayer request someone you know has been praying about that God could use you to help answer (i.e., if someone is praying that they won't be so depressed, what can you do to cheer them up?)

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

a. Talk to God about your relationship with Him. Tell Him what happened in your life today. Tell Him about your desire to know Him better.

b. Tell God about someone you know that is in need physically or spiritually. Ask Him to impress upon you what you can do to help.

5. Outreach Idea

Ask your pastor what he or she knows about short-term mission trips and mission organizations. What would it take for you to be able to go on one of these trips?
