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Living All In
Acts 4:34-5:10

Placing Your Bet on God:

I. _____: The New Testament Pattern of Discipleship

Acts 4:34-35 *For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.*

The Pattern of Giving:

1. *Those with property would sell land or houses*
2. *And bring the proceeds of sales*
3. *And lay them at the apostles' feet*

II. _____: The Example of Discipleship

Acts 4:36-37 *Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.*

The Example of Giving: Barnabas

1. *Sold it (a tract of land)*
2. *And brought the money*
3. *And laid it at the apostles' feet*

III. _____: The Risk to Discipleship.

Acts 5:1-2 *But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.*

Ananias and Sapphira's Distortion of the Giving Pattern:

1. *Sold a piece of property*
 - 1a. *And kept back some...for himself, with his wife's full knowledge*
2. *And bringing a portion of it (the price)*
3. *He laid it at the apostles' feet*

IV. _____ of Hedging Our Bets:

Ananias Dies:

Acts 5:3-6 *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it. 6 The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.*

- The land belonged to Ananias and Sapphira
- The proceeds of the sale belonged to them
- Their sin was not in giving, but in lying to God

Sapphira Dies:

Acts 5:7-10 *Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, that was the price." 9 Then Peter said to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out as well." 10 And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last, and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.*

Main Idea: Hedging your bets with a lord is the most risky wager.



Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

Ask yourself: Where do I hedge my bets with Jesus?

1. Time – How about in my calendar? Does He rule my time?
2. Finances – How about my money? Am I steward or a consumer?
(Trying to live with two Lords – God and money)
3. Relationships – Do my relationships reflect that Jesus is Lord? Spouse? Kids? As a single person? At work?
4. Appearance (Pride)–
5. Challenge: Pray and ask the Spirit of God to show you; Where in my life do I not want Jesus to be Lord? What keeps me from going "all in" with Jesus?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email pastortodd@thevineva.org or call 703.819.7795 to set up an appointment.