

October 29/30, 2005

Study Questions
The Unstoppable Church
An Attack From Satan
Acts 4:32-5:16
Pastor Bryan Clark

Opening Discussion

1. The opening chapters of Acts remind us that the believers' commitment to the mission of The Church included a high commitment to one another. In other words, a high value on community was essential to accomplishing the mission. Why is that?
2. What motivates you to steward what you have for God's purposes?

How does your understanding of the mission of the church affect that commitment?
3. Do you ever get caught up in trying to appear more spiritual than you really are?

Are you ever guilty of having more show than substance?

Why do we do this?

Bible Study

1. Read Acts 4:32-37. Why does Luke carefully weave together the idea of stewardship and mission?

What makes a joyful giver?
2. What does it mean to steward what you have for God's purposes?

What does that look like in practical terms?
3. Read Acts 5:1-11. What is the sin of Ananias and Sapphira?

Are we ever guilty of the same sin? In what way?
4. Peter identifies this as an attack from Satan. In what ways might an "internal" attack be more damaging than an "external" attack?
5. In what way are Ananias and Sapphira the antithesis of Barnabas?

What was the difference?

6. Read Acts 5:12-16. What is the purpose of this paragraph following the sobering story of Ananias and Sapphira?

What will be necessary for the church to continue to flourish?

7. Do you think God still does signs and wonders today? Why or why not?

Application

1. It is easy to *say* you are committed to the mission of the church, but does your stewardship of time and treasure reflect a high commitment to the mission?

2. How can we avoid the temptation of trying to appear more “spiritual” than we truly are?

In other words, how can we maintain an authenticity to our lives?

3. What will be necessary for us to be more like Barnabas than Ananias and Sapphira?