

False Freedom - Acts 5:1-11

- 1. There is an interesting dichotomy that comes from Matthew 16:25, which says, "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Discuss the idea that to find your life, you must lose it.
- 2. The early church was in unity with one another and was sharing everything they had. No doubt people received "at-a-boys" for giving to others, which would have prompted the situation with Ananias and Sapphira. In what area of your life do you like to receive praise and kudos for your effort? Have you ever loved those accolades to the point of deception or men pleasing?
- 3. Matt 6:2 Says, "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. We have all experienced a time when we have desired the praises of men rather than God. How do we avoid this trap and keep the glory going toward God rather than man?
- 4. What are some of the costs of sin? Genesis 39:9, Galatians 3:10, 2 Samuel 11:2-17, Ezekiel 18:4, Romans 6:23, Romans 7:24.
- 5. Read Romans 6. How does death to sin create a new life in us? How are you doing with being a slave to righteousness?
- 6. Deceit, disunity, and duplicity always seek to undermine the Holy Spirit's work and continually erode the Christian community's effectiveness. How do we fight for unity in the community of believers?

