



## Reflections on the Character of God

The reflection section has 5 scriptures that pertain to this week's aspect of God's character. Take one passage a day and reflect on it in the context you find. Note your insights.

The life response sections give you 2 more verses to ponder. These passages relate to your response to the name, title, or attribute of God. Write down practical responses.

### Provider

Reflection: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 37:25,26; Malahi 3:6-12; Matthew 14:13-21; Philippians 4:19

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Life Response: Matthew 10:5-10; John 14:1-3

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A Discipleship Journey - Acts of The Holy Spirit  
Lying to The Holy Spirit - March 27, 2022

### **Primary text: Acts 4:36 - 5:16**

The setting: *the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul. -Acts 4:32*

Barnabas means son of encouragement.

Luke 14:7-11 shows us that in the Kingdom of God, you don't have to promote yourself; God will give you all the recognition you need and deserve.

True greatness does not come from self-promotion!

The lie to the Apostles and Church was very serious because it was really to lie to God!

Matthew 13:24-30 - Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds

The most dangerous problem for the church was NOT external but internal.

If the Church, at the start, became hypocritical, it would lose its spiritual power.

Only a pure Church could turn the world upside down!

God is more interested in your purity than in your prospects for the future.

God is more interested in your motives than in what you do for Him!

God would rather have a small church that is pure than a big church that doesn't represent Him.

*"We don't need bigger churches... We need bigger Christians"*  
-Pastor David Engelhardt

Repentance leads to revival.

"How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?" -vs. 9

"Hypocrisy" refers to the act of claiming to believe something but acting in a different manner.

The word is derived from the Greek term for "actor"—literally, "one who wears a mask."

### **Results of Judgment in the Life of the Church:**

#### 1) Fear and awe

It is recognition that God is holy and righteous, and just.

It is a recognition that sin is an awful offense against God that deserves punishment.

#### 2) A refined church & a new recognition of the cost of discipleship.

If you joined this group, it was going to cost you something.

If you were there, would you have dared to join?

### Discussion Questions:

Acts 4:36 - 5:16

1. Read this week's passage together: What shocks you the most about this passage?
2. Why are the apostles seen as so special and trustworthy?
3. At its core, what was the sin of Ananias and Sapphira?
4. Why was this so serious? What was unique about this time in Church history?
5. What was the effect of the death of Ananias and Sapphira?
6. So why did more people convert?
7. Why should we fear the Lord?
8. Consider the statement: "We don't need bigger churches, we need bigger Christians" What does this statement mean for you?

### **Close in Prayer:**

Pray specifically for Gracepoint. Pray that sin would be dealt with and that we would be a purified and powerful church.