



THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 27, 2024

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

November 10

Our Next Gospel Meeting

March 16-21

Weekly Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday at 2 pm

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

November 1

Address and Contact

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WAS IT NOT YOUR OWN?

The first recorded sin in the church involved Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11). This husband and wife sold a possession of theirs and claimed the amount they brought to the apostles as being all they got. It wasn't. They had conspired to keep back some of the purchase price for themselves. For this "lie to God" they paid the ultimate price of death. There is much to learn from their story.

Barnabas is commended for his selling of a possession and giving all at the apostle's feet. He is forever remembered as one who cared for others. No doubt Ananias and Sapphira saw what Barnabus and others were doing and wanted to get in on the act but they were more concerned for themselves. They are forever remembered for their dishonesty and greed. Parting with material things is so difficult but we have to ask ourselves a question - "Are we giving all we could on the 1st day of the week?" Churches should not rely on bake sales and bingo nights to raise money for the church is not about raising money. The church is about Christians giving of their possessions to meet the needs God has given the church to meet. See 1 Corinthians 16:1-3. Are we a Barnabas or an Ananias?

Another lesson involves the married. Spouses' ought to have good spiritual influence on each other. Sadly, Ananias and Sapphira influenced each other for evil. "*How is it that you have agreed together to test the spirit of the Lord*" (Acts 5:8). What a tragedy when the marriage relationship does not spiritually edify the partners involved. Even the wife that has a husband who is not a Christian can have a good influence on him just by living the Christian life herself (1 Peter 3:1). And what of the husband that doesn't treat his wife with honor and understanding? 1 Peter

Members Needing Our Prayers

Sara Scott, Bobbie Atkisson, Paul Atkisson, Julie Patton, Deremia Osbourne, Ralph Fox, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Gary Brown, Janett Brundige, Cindy Bradbury

Others Needing Prayer

Stuart Goodpasture, Jodi Harrison, Bob Brundige, Rose Curtis, Josh McKibben, Phyllis Harmon, Maurice Baker, Jeff Padgett, John Thompson, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Patty Hill, Janice Parsons, Mark Nickles, Paul and Marrian Lyda

To Our Guests

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3:7 says his prayers are hindered and the Lord does not hear. Married folk have an obligation to be a spiritual help to one another and it is a beautiful thing when it works this way. But the phrase “bad company ruins good morals” can also work in the home as it did in the case of Ananias and Sapphira. Are we being a good influence in the home?

We can also learn that there is nowhere to hide from God. Ananias and Sapphira thought they could deceive the apostles and the Lord. They learned the hard way that God is not mocked. *“For the eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good”* (Prov. 15:3). Another passage has evil men saying, *“The Lord sees us not...”* (Ezekiel 8:12). Everyone should believe this - if we are not serving the Lord faithfully, he sees the evil that we do and punishment will come. We cannot hide from God.

Finally, we get to the title question. Peter asked Ananias, *“While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it sold, was it not at your disposal?”* (Acts 5:4) Salvation is an individual responsibility. Every person needs to believe in Jesus, repent, and be baptized (Acts 2:38 *“every one of you”*). Hearts filled with sin are lost, but can be saved then they come to the Lord without holding anything back. Wayde Miller

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
Adam Litmer	Marcus Lake	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	James Weatherholt	

