

7.19.2010 – Little Pillars Family Guide



Scripture Passage:

Acts 4:32-5:11

Memory Verse for the Week:

Acts 4:34-35: There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Family Guide (5-day format):

1. Read 4:32
 - a. What does it mean to be of “one heart and soul?”
 - b. What does it mean to say that none of our things are our own?
 - c. What does it mean to have everything in common?
 - d. What are some things we can share today? Who can we share with?
2. Read 4:33-37
 - a. Focus on verses 34-35 as this week's memory verses.
 - b. Have them repeat verses 34-35 after you.
 - c. Make up some hand motions to go along with it to aid them in remembering it.
 - d. Act it out – have one person in need, use some play money, have one sell something and give the money to the other.
 - e. Stress the fact that ALL of the proceeds – all of the money – is given.
3. Read 5:1-6
 - a. Ask what Ananias did wrong (lied to the apostles about how much he sold the property for)?
 - b. How was it different from Barnabas?
 - c. Does God like it when we are dishonest?
 - d. Ask why they think Ananias did this.
 - e. Ask what happened to Ananias?
4. Read 5:7-10
 - a. Remind them about Barnabas giving everything, Ananias holding some back. Ask who was dishonest? (Ananias).
 - b. Ask if Sapphira was also dishonest?
 - c. If you have three or more (kids and adults), act it out. Have one be Peter, one be Ananias, one be Sapphira. Take turns being the different people.
 - d. Bring in the Gospel.
 - i. Ask what we deserve when we are dishonest.
 - ii. Broaden it to sin in general and point out some ways that we sin (lying, disobeying mommy and daddy, not showing respect, etc).
 - iii. Point to how we deserve to be treated just like Ananias and Sapphira, but Jesus shows love and grace to us.
5. Read Acts 5:11
 - a. Remind them of what has happened.
 - b. Ask them if they would be scared if they heard about this happening.
 - c. Engage them with the gospel bringing back the conversation from the end of yesterday's questions.



Prior Week: Gospel Boldness

Acts 4:23-31

When Peter and John taught the people that they could rise from death through the power of Jesus, the Jewish rulers were upset. The rulers arrested Peter and John and put them in jail for the night. Many people believed Peter and John and the number of believers grew to about 5000 men.

The next day, the rulers asked Peter and John, "How did you heal this man, who told you to do this?" The Holy Spirit gave Peter power and Peter said, "We want you and all the people to know that he was made well by King Jesus' power. You rulers nailed Jesus to the cross, but God raised Jesus from death. God made Jesus the cornerstone in His building that you should have built and you rejected Jesus. Only Jesus can save people. No one else in the world can do it."

The rulers were amazed that Peter and John were so bold to speak this way to them. They couldn't say that the man was not made well because he was standing with Peter and John. So they told them to stop teaching people about Jesus. But Peter and John said, "Should we do what you want or what God wants? We must teach about Jesus because that what God's wants us to do.

The rulers wanted to punish Peter and John but couldn't because the people were praising God for what had been done. So all the rulers could do was warn Peter and John to stop teaching about Jesus again. Then they let them go.

Peter and John left the rulers and went to their friends to tell them what the rulers said. When Peter and John's friends heard this, they prayed together to God saying, "Lord who rules, who made the universe and everything in it, who sent the Holy Spirit to speak through king David saying, 'the kings and rulers of the earth fight against the Lord and His King, Jesus.' Right here in Jerusalem king Herod and governor Pontius Pilate and the people were fighting against Your holy servant, King Jesus. They did exactly what you planned for them to do. Now they fight against us and try to make us afraid. Give us boldness to speak your word about King Jesus without fear. Stretch out Your hand to heal. Help us to do signs and wonders in the power of Jesus' name.

When they finished praying, the place they were at shook and the Holy Spirit filled them so they could speak about King Jesus boldly.

We call this story . . . *Gospel Boldness*.



Dialog:

- 1. Why were the rulers upset? Whose power could raise people from death?**
*Peter and John were teaching the people that they could rise from death.
Jesus power could raise people from death.*
- 2. What did the rulers do to Peter and John spend the night? Now how many men were among the believers?**
*They put Peter and John in jail.
There were 5000 believers.*
- 3. When the rulers asked Peter how he healed the man, who gave Peter power to reply? Whose power made the man well?**
*The Holy Spirit gave Peter power.
King Jesus' power made him well.*
- 4. What did the rulers do to Jesus? What did God make Jesus? Who is the only One who can save people?**
*They nailed Jesus to the cross.
They rejected Jesus.
God made Jesus the cornerstone.
Jesus is the only one who can save people.*
- 5. Why were the rulers amazed at Peter and John? What did the rulers tell Peter and John to do? What did Peter say to them?**
*Peter and John spoke to them with boldness.
They told Peter and John to stop teaching people about Jesus.
Peter told the rulers that he had to teach about Jesus because God wanted him to.*
- 6. When Peter and John left, who did they go to? What did they tell them?**
*They went to their friends.
They told their friends what the rulers told them to do.*
- 7. How did Peter and John's friends respond? What are some of the things they said God did?**
*They prayed to God together.
God rules, God made the universe and everything in it, God sends His Holy Spirit.*
- 8. What did king David say would happen? Who was involved in the fight against King Jesus?**
- 9. Who planned for them to fight against King Jesus? Who are they fighting against now?**
- 10. What did the believers ask God to do?**

Application

- 1. What do you like best about this story?**
- 2. What questions do you have about this story?**
- 3. Have you heard a story about someone being treated badly for teaching about Jesus?**
- 4. What is more important, to do what people want us to do or to do what God wants us to do? Why?**