



The Supernatural Power of a Church on Mission
Acts 5:12-21
June 16, 2019

When a church is on mission God's power will be evident.

1. God's power in and through the church brings respect. (Acts 5:1-13)
2. God's power in and through the church brings deliverance. (Acts 5:14-19)
3. God's power in and through the church brings confidence even in the face of persecution. (Acts 5:28-32, 41-42)

Application:

1. In what way do you need the power of God in your life? How does this chapter change the way you are on mission for the Lord?
2. Pray for God's power to be seen in our church...in our families...in our lives.



Life Group Questions/ Discussion

Main thought of the Study – Is our church known for its spiritual power? We will explore the ways we gain a reputation for God’s powerful work in our midst.

Introduction Discussion – Discuss how a person gets a reputation for something. What are you known for? What would you like to be known for?

Reflections from the Message

1. Discuss the sin of Ananias and his wife. (Acts 5:1-3) How does it relate to the sin of hypocrisy that Jesus confronts in Matthew 6:1-6,16-18? Explore the influence Satan has upon a Christ-follower. (Matthew 16:23; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Galatians 5:17; Ephesians 6:12) Why do you think the discipline from the Lord was so severe?
2. Peter said that they were “testing” the Spirit of God. (Acts 5:9) How was their action testing the Spirit? How do we “test” the Spirit when we sin? In Acts 5:11, it describes the church and the community as having great fear. Is this a good thing? Why? (Also v. 13)
3. Review the response we should have when we see someone sinning. (Matthew 18:15-17; Luke 17:3; Titus 1:13) Do we do this well in our relationships in the church? Why or why not? (Compare Ephesians 4:14,32)
4. Discuss the miracles that were being done through the apostles. (Acts 5:15-16) Why would Peter’s shadow have such power? When people are close to us and walking in our shadow, what do they receive that would be from God?
5. Why were the religious leaders upset with them? (Acts 5:17-18) What miracle did the Lord do for the apostles? (Acts 5:19) Share with one another a time when the Lord delivered you from danger. Where did they go when they were delivered? (Acts 5:25) What power do we have in the face of persecution? (Acts 5:32) Why would they be rejoicing after they had been beaten? (Acts 5:40-41)

Digging Deeper

Study the N.T. teaching on Christians being persecuted. What is the reason or purpose for such mistreatment? (2 Timothy 3:12; I Peter 4:14; Matthew 5:10)

Application:

1. Ask the Lord to reveal any hidden sin or acts of hypocrisy in your life and then confess it to the Lord. Pray for one another to be transparent with the Lord and with one another.
2. Look for someone who is in your shadow. Be aware of the influence you are having. Pray to be a good example of the Lord in you and through you.