

Read Acts 5:1-11

1 But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. **2** He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest.

3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself.

4 The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren't lying to us but to God!"

5 As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified. **6** Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him.

7 About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

8 Peter asked her, "Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?" "Yes," she replied, "that was the price."

9 And Peter said, "How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too."

10 Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

11 Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

What did Ananias and Sapphira do (v. 1)? They sold some property they owned.

What did they do next (v. 2)? They brought *part* of the money to give to the apostles but they lied and said it was the whole amount they got for selling the property. They kept the rest of the money for themselves.

What did Peter say to Ananias (vv. 3-4)? Why did you let Satan control your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit and kept some of the money for yourself. **How did Peter know that Ananias was lying?** Probably the Holy Spirit revealed the truth to Peter.

Did Ananias and Sapphira have to give all the money to the apostles? No. Could they have kept some of the money for themselves? Yes. What was the problem? They weren't honest. They lied.

What happened to Ananias next (v. 5)? He fell down and died. **What did the people think about that?** They were scared to death!

When Sapphira came in 3 hours later, did she know what had happened to Ananias (v. 7)? No

What did Peter ask Sapphira (v. 8)? He asked her if this was all the money they had sold the property for. **How did she answer?** Yes. She lied. It was not all of the money.

What did Peter say to her (v. 9)? You and you husband were scheming to test the Holy Spirit. But He won't let you get away with this lie. You are going to die.

What happened to Sapphira next (v. 10)? She fell to the floor and died just like Ananias. They were buried next to each other.

What did all the believers think about what had just happened (v. 11)? Everyone was really scared!

What can we learn from this story? God is a just God. And a holy God. Don't lie. Etc.