

Introduction: Where did all the power go?

- The church in Acts is _____!
- The church in Acts is _____!
- The church in Acts is _____!
- The church in Acts is _____!
- The church in Acts _____ the broken-hearted, the outcast, the poor, and the rejected.
- The church in Acts _____ daily!
- The church in Acts _____ and saw the miraculous.

The Questions:

- What happened?
- What thwarts God's unstoppable grace in our lives?

The Answer: Acts Chapter 5

Jesus' newborn Church comes under attack!

Attack from within -

- The Story: Acts 5:1-10
- The Temptation: To _____
- The Judgment: Acts 5:5, 10
- The Reason: _____ kills the authenticity of the _____ and the credibility of the _____.
- The Result: Great _____ and great _____! Acts 5:12-16

Attack from without -

- The Story: Acts 5:17-33

- The Temptation: To _____

- The Judgment: Acts 5:34-40

- The Reason: _____ in the face of persecution authenticates the validity of the _____ and the credibility of the _____.

- The Result: Great _____ and _____! Acts 5:41-42

Discussion Questions:

1. How has hypocrisy in the church negatively impacted your life and spiritual journey? Who tempted Ananias and Sapphira to "appear" generous instead of being generous?
2. When and where are you most tempted to "pose?" What's the difference between being authentic and "having to be perfect?"
3. How does the fear of what other people think impact your willingness to be bold in your passion for Christ? Read Romans 1:16 and discuss the implications.
4. What might be a "baby step" God would have you take to become more authentic? Courageous?
5. Do you believe God's power is as available today as it was in the early church? Why or why not? What are the conditions for God's power to flow through us?