

Sermon Notes for October 26, 2025

Title: There, But for the Grace of God, Go I

Text: Acts 4:32-5:11

1. The fellowship of the early church _____ in the power of the Holy Spirit as seen in the example of Joseph Barnabas. (Acts 4:32-37)
2. The fellowship of the early church was _____ by sin and by Satan as seen in the example of Ananias and Sapphira. (Acts 5:1-11)
3. The fellowship of the early church was _____ through the righteous judgment of God that brought great fear upon the whole church. (Acts 5:5, 10-11; Josh 7; 1 Cor 3:16-17, 5:1-5, 11:27-32)

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Discussion Guide

1. What stood out to you in today's gathering?
2. Many people think of the early church as the ideal church with no problems. How does today's passage help us see the early church as a real church facing real problems? Does having problems always mean that we are doing something wrong?
3. Darrel Bock wrote, "So, the deceitful act was completely premeditated, apparently motivated by the desire of Ananias and Sapphira to appear more generous than they truly are. The desire for human praise is more important to them than being faithful to God." Is this a sin that we are prone to as well? Can we be motivated by the praise of men rather than by God's approval?
4. Do you think Ananias and Sapphira's sin was serious enough to warrant death? Why?
5. Is there a place for a healthy fear of God in the Christian life?
6. How can you apply today's message to your life?

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