



Week 5: December 1-7

10min

Welcome / Introduce Guests
Celebrate! / Open in Prayer / Recall the Guidelines

2min

Share the Vision: Church is a family. Healthy families have a healthy environment. They love one another.

5min

They resolve conflict biblically. They work together towards common goals. They create a hospitable space. They are there for each other. Our goal is that our small group would be like a healthy family.

Hook Question: What did you do on Thanksgiving? How do you feel after the let down from the holiday?

2min

Retell Last Week's Story: Matthew 28:16-20 (Jesus's commission and promise)

5min

Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:

We are continuing our focus on the wonders of God. Today, we will consider God's justice and how serious He is about sin.

Today's story takes place shortly after last week's story, just a short period after Jesus ascended into heaven. The Holy Spirit had come, and the church was born. God's Spirit was now dwelling in people making them new creations in Christ. Forgiveness for sins had been made available through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The church was young and growing. The close disciples of Jesus were now stepping up to lead the church. Peter, one of Jesus's closest disciples, was one of those early church leaders.

As the church grew, God's people were being very generous. Many were selling their possessions – including houses and lands – and giving the proceeds to the church. The Bible says they were so generous that there was not a need among them. However, today's story takes a dark turn. Two people in the church intentionally and deliberately made plans to sin against God and His Church. The names of these two individuals were Ananias and Sapphira. This is where our story begins...

12min

Tell the story from Acts 5:1-11: *Remember to change up the storyteller often.*

Rebuild the story: *Group members retell the story based on what they remember.*

Read the story from Acts 5:1-11: *Ask the group to read these verses.*

Discussion Questions: learn to talk about God's Word with others...

Head Questions:
Quicker tempo.

- What do you like or dislike about this story?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God?
 - What does this story teach us about God's view of intentional sin and covering it up?
- How do you think you would have felt if you were part of the start up of the early church and you heard about this story?

Heart & Hand Questions:
Slow down & wait!

- Are there any secret sins that have been going on in your life that you have been hiding?
- What do you think God is trying to show you through this story and our discussion?
- Who could retell the story for us right here one last time?

Thank your storyteller for sharing the Word. Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week. Close in prayer.



Week 5: Happy Thanksgiving!! Share the Love.

"Love one another, just as I have loved you." - Jesus

Happy Thanksgiving! It's a holiday, so let's make this week's coaching short and sweet...

Reaching out to loved ones on holidays is natural. We need to ask God to help us get to a place where it becomes natural for us to reach out to our groups and those we disciple on meaningful holidays and events to make them feel loved!

Text your group and wish them a Happy Thanksgiving ON THANKSGIVING DAY.

Think of "the least of these" in your group. Text them individually and ask how they are doing today. Remember, always be ready to extend an invitation to share the holiday with you and your family. In a loving family, there is always room for one more around the table!

Remind your group of your plans if they were adjusted for the holiday. Let them know you are excited to see them. Remind them that if they need anything at all they can reach you on your phone anytime.

Let's grow in love this week!!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours!!