

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Acts 4:36-6:7

Key Verses: 6:2-4

“So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.’”

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Read 4:36-5:11. What did Barnabas do? How were Ananias and Sapphira different? According to Peter, what was Ananias' sin? What happened to him and his wife? Why was their sin so serious? What was the immediate effect of these events? (11) What does it mean to fear God?
2. Read 5:12-16. After this event how did the apostles reveal God's love and power to the people? How did the work of God grow? What does it mean that no one dared join them, yet more and more were added to their number?
3. Read 5:17-26. How did Satan attack? How did God help his servants? What does this reveal about God's mission for his church? What did the apostles do? (21) What happened? (22-26) What can we learn from them?
4. Read 5:27-29. What accusation did the Sanhedrin bring against the apostles? How did they respond? How could the apostles overcome fear? How did they use the circumstances to preach Jesus? Read 5:30-32. What was the content and point of their message?
5. Read 5:33-39. How did the Sanhedrin respond to Peter's challenge to repent? Who was Gamaliel? What was his defense? Read 5:40-42. What happened? What was the apostles' attitude toward suffering? Why?
6. Read 6:1-7. What problem arose as the church grew? How did the apostles deal with it? What can we learn here from them?