

SESSION TITLE: Ananias and Sapphira

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 4–5

STORY POINT: Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous.

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 12:5 “We who are many are one body in Christ.”

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere.

Welcome and worship with song

Greet preschoolers with a smile. As preschoolers arrive,
Sing an action song “A New Creation” to engage and welcome them.
Begin worship by leading preschoolers in the theme song “One Foundation.”

Watch or tell the Bible story

Ask preschoolers to think of things that they share with a friend.

SAY • Sharing can be hard for people like you and me.

Today, we’re going to learn about two people who pretended to share all their money, but instead kept some of it for themselves. Listen to our Bible story to learn what happened when they lied about sharing.

Show the video

Practice the key passage

SAY • In today’s Bible story, the Christians shared all they had. No one said, “This is mine!” Everyone helped each other so no one had needs that were not met. Our key passage reminds us that Christians share because we are one body in Christ.

Sing the key passage song “One Body in Christ” together.

Read Key Passage Slide together.

Learn the big picture question and answer

SAY • Our big picture question asks, *What is the church?*

The church is all Christians everywhere. Ananias and Sapphira lied about sharing all their money, but Jesus gave everything He had to share His riches with the church. He gave His life for all Christians everywhere.

Respond through song

SAY • **Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous**, but they wanted to keep their money for themselves. We do not need to lie or be greedy like Ananias and Sapphira, because Jesus gave everything He had to share His riches with us and to give us life with God forever. When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit changes us so we want to share with others.

Sing “One Foundation”

Sing “Children of the Kingdom”

Sing “Into the World”

Prayer

SAY • God, thank You for being kind. Thank You for sharing Jesus with us. He gave up the riches of heaven to share Your life with us. Change us by Your Holy Spirit to help us share with others. Amen.

Transition to experience the story

Sing about sharing

Form a circle. Lead preschoolers to sing the lyrics below to the tune of “The More We Get Together.” Guide children to pass a ball around the circle as they sing. Pass the ball each time the class sings the word *riches*.

“Jesus shared all His riches, His riches, His riches. Jesus shared all His riches so we might have life.”

SAY • **Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous**, but Jesus gave everything He had to share His riches with us. When we trust in Jesus, God gives us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit changes us so we want to share with others.

Find and share the truth

Before the session, write the story point, key passage, big picture question, and some key truths from the Christ connection on index cards. Hide the cards around the room. Invite preschoolers to search the room to find the cards. Read the cards aloud to the group as children find them.

SAY • **Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous**, but they lied and hid the truth from the church. When we trust in Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit. He helps us tell the truth and not hide it.

Play a circle time sharing game

Form a circle on the floor. Invite a child to roll a ball across the circle to a friend. When the child gets the ball, she will call out something she can share. Guide preschoolers so all children in the circle are included.

SAY • We can share all kinds of things with one another, but sharing can be hard. That’s why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. He changes us so we will want to share. **Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous**, but the Holy Spirit makes us truly generous.

Guess all or some

Print and cut apart the “All or Some?” cards. Help preschoolers match the picture which shows *all* of an item to the picture that shows *some*—or pieces—of the item.

SAY • **Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous.**

They lied to the church. Instead of giving *all* their money, they only gave *some*. Jesus didn’t give *some* of His riches. Jesus gave up *all* He had to give us life with God forever.

Transition to review the story

Ask the following review questions:

1. ***What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere.***
2. What did the church in Jerusalem share? (*everything they had*)
3. Did anyone in the church need anything? (*No. If someone had a need, the other believers would sell what they had to make sure everyone had enough.*)
4. Did Ananias and Sapphira tell the truth about their gift? (*No, Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous, but they lied to God.*)
5. Did Jesus share all of His riches? (*Yes. Jesus gave up everything.*)
6. What does Jesus give us? (*life forever with God*)

SAY • Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous.

They kept money back for themselves but said they gave it all. Jesus was different. He gave up everything He had to share His riches and give us life with God forever. When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit changes us so we want to share like Jesus.

Pray

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have.

SAY • God, thank You for sharing Jesus with us. He was generous. Sometimes we are like Ananias and Sapphira. We do not want to share. We want to keep the good gifts that You have given us for ourselves. But Jesus gave up the riches of heaven to share Your life with us forever. Please change us by your Holy Spirit and help us to be generous like Jesus. Amen.

Make an “Ask Me” necklace.

Cut out one paper medallion for each preschooler. Punch a hole at the top of each. Guide each child to color her medallion while you string one length of ribbon or yarn through each and tie it for the child to wear as a necklace.

SAY • Ananias and Sapphira pretended to be generous.

They hid some of their money, but Jesus gave up everything to share His riches with us. As you go home, share the good news on your necklace with your family.