

Reassembling Community Week 3 - Scripture Readings

Acts 5:5-11

There was, however, a man named Ananias, married to a woman called Sapphira. He sold some property, and, with his wife's knowledge, kept back part of the price. He brought the rest and laid it at the apostles' feet.

"Ananias!" said Peter. "Why did the satan fill your heart, to make you tell a lie to the holy spirit and to keep back part of the price of the land? While it was still yours, it belonged to you, didn't it? And, when you sold it, it was still in your power! Why did you get such an idea in your heart? It isn't humans that you've lied to: it's God!"

When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. Everyone who heard about it was scared out of their wits. The young men got up, took him away, wrapped up his body, and buried him.

After an interval of about three hours, his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

Peter spoke to her.

"Tell me," he said, "did you sell the land for this much?"

"Yes," she replied, "that was the price."

"So why," Peter answered, "did you agree together to put the holy spirit to the test? Look: the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door—and they will carry you out too!"

At once she fell down at his feet and died. The young men were just coming in, and they found her dead, so they took her out and buried her beside her husband.

Great fear came upon the whole gathering, and on all who heard about these things.

Homework for next week:

Read Acts chapter 6