

## Questions for Reflection and Discussion

### Acts 5:11

#### Removing the Masks

##### Background

**Read Acts 4:36-37.** How was Barnabas an example of the radical generosity Luke describes in Acts 4:32-35?

##### Digging In

1. **Read Ac 5:1-11.** Write a brief summary of the passage.
2. **Read vss.1-4.** What was wrong with what Ananias and Sapphira did? Would it have been acceptable for them to donate only part of the proceeds of the sale of their property? Why or why not?
3. Based on the preceding context, why do you think Ananias and Sapphira conspired in this act of hypocritical giving? What motivated them?
4. In what sense did they lie to the Holy Spirit? (v. 3)
5. How do these verses teach the deity of the Holy Spirit (that is, that the Holy Spirit is God)?
6. **Read vss. 5-11.** What happened to Ananias and Sapphira?
7. Why do you think God's judgment on them was so severe?
8. In what sense did their actions constitute *testing* the Lord? Why was this wrong?
9. Give some examples of how we might do this today.
10. How did the church and community respond to these events? How would this have strengthened the church?



##### Getting Personal

- Why do you think we are so often motivated to do good deeds – at least in part – in order to gain the praise of people?
- What does Jesus say about this in Matt 6:1-18.
- In what ways are you tempted to call attention to your good deeds?
- How can we be freed from self-serving motives so that we can seek to live righteously for God's glory alone?