**Part 8 – The After Party – Acts**

**Having the Right Motives**

**Having the right motives.**

**Acts 5:1-11**

**Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. With his wife’s full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles’ feet.**

**Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?**

**Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”**

**When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.**

**About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, “Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?” “Yes,” she said, “that is the price.”**

**Peter said to her, “How could you conspire to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also.”**

**At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.**

**How to have the right motives.**

* **Let God be your motive, not the recognition.**

**Matthew 6:1**

**Be careful not to do your good works in public in order to attract attention. If you do, your Father in heaven will not reward you.**

**Matthew 6:2**

**So when you give to the poor, don’t announce it with trumpet fanfare. This is what hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets in order to be praised by people. I can guarantee this truth: That will be their only reward.**

**Matthew 6:3-4**

**But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.**

* **Let truth be your motive, not lies.**

**Acts 5:3-4**

**Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?**

**Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”**

**Where do lies come from?**

**John 8:43-45**

**He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.**

**Exodus 20:16**

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

**Proverbs 12:22**

**The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in those who tell the truth.**

**Luke 6:45**

**What you say flows from what is in your heart.**

**John 8:31-32**

**So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**

**Take a moment and evaluate your motives.**

**Now evaluate what you're saying to others.**