LESSON 6

GIVING TO GOD



Aim: **To teach the children that we must be honest and sincere when we give to God.**

Scripture Reading: **Acts 5:1–11**

Memory Verse: **2 Corinthians 9:7a**
Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion …

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Make up a story about a child whose mother sent her to buy a loaf of bread. The mother gave her Ls 5 to pay for it. The bread cost only Ls 4, so she had Ls 1 change. **(Make the price the average one in your area, and replace the currency with the one in use in your country.)** When her mother asked her what the bread had cost, she lied. She said it had cost Ls 5, and she kept the change for herself. Then her sister saw the extra money and told their mother. The mother was angry.

Why was the mother angry? Answer: Her daughter had lied to her.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

Tell the story of Acts 5:1–11 in your own words.

1. Ananias and Sapphira were husband and wife. They had heard Peter preach and they had decided to follow Jesus. They belonged to the first church, where people shared all their belongings with one another. They saw that many people sold their possessions and gave the money to the church to give to those in need (4:32, 34–35). Then Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of their land (5:1).
2. They only gave part of the money they received for their land to the church. However, they said that it was the whole sum. They lied about keeping a portion for themselves (5:2, 8).
   Give an example, using the currency the children are familiar with:

Land sold for	Ls 400
Sum given to the church	Ls 200
Ananias and Sapphira kept	Ls 200

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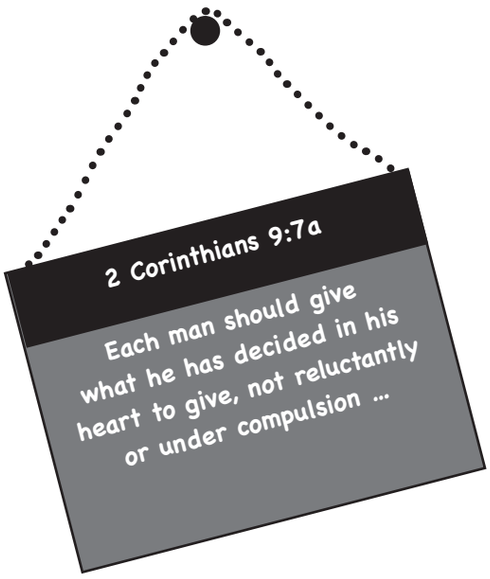


3. Peter talked to Ananias, giving him the opportunity to be honest and confess (5:3-4). However, he kept on lying. He fell down and died. Everyone who heard about it was filled with fear and respect for God's power (5:5).
4. Later on, Sapphira arrived there. She had not heard what had happened to Ananias. She also refused to be honest before God and was struck down, too (5:7-10a). **Show Picture 6.** That taught the members of the church that God expects us to be honest and sincere when we bring him an offering. To God, what goes on in our hearts is more important than what we do to impress others.

Our Response to the Story

Think of situations that test our honesty in this way. Examples: when we behave very well at school, but disobey our parents at home, or when we are friendly with people only because we want something from them. Remember: you can't deceive God. He sees inside your heart, and that is what counts for him.

Instil the Memory Verse



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