

Community Groups are the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering. It is through the interaction that takes place in each of these groups around our area that will enable people to begin to move from being drawn to God to a life that is being deepened by God. Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering, owning, and applying the truths of God's Word. There may be aspects you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth. Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on an aspect of their relationship with God. Use this as a flexible teaching tool not a rigid group task list.

Consider...

Use the summary and questions to **BRIEFLY** review this week's message for those in the group:

Message Summary

In a rather odd and sobering passage, we get a peek into how God feels when the values we profess on Sunday don't have much affect on The Other Six days of the week. At the end of Acts 4 and the beginning of Acts 5, we see that he is so opposed to hypocrisy (which is simply pretending to have what you don't) that his plan for dealing with it is to expose us or kill us. It's an attention-getting passage that teaches us three very important truths that can help close the gap between Sunday and The Other Six:

1. **Sunday is the least important day of the week.** It isn't because they aren't important, obviously. But for too long we have made the one-hour service the end all of our faith, and what happens on The Other Six hasn't gotten much attention. It's time to elevate the ministry we all have during the week, too, at our jobs, in our homes and with our neighbors and friends.
2. **Sunday reveals our honesty or hypocrisy on The Other Six.** What happened to the husband and wife in Acts 5 was how God revealed what was truly in their hearts 24/7. It revealed that what they appeared to be on Sunday wasn't who they really were on The Other Six. If God judged us like that today, what would Sundays reveal about you and me?
3. **Hypocrisy results in death, but honesty results in growth.** God hates hypocrites as much as we do, and he presents hypocrites with a choice: come clean or fall dead. The hypocrisy resulted in the death of a couple, but it brought an honest reverence among the believers that resulted in the growth of church (Acts 5:11 and 14).

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What was one helpful, eye-opening, or troubling insight or principle from this week's message?
- This week's Big Idea states "**our actions on The Other Six create reactions on the seventh.**" How do you see this happening both positively and negatively in Acts 4:32-5:16?
- How does The Big Idea help to create a culture where we all take ownership of the Sunday service instead of just a few leaders making sure it's a good service?
- What is something that you need to talk less about and do more about? What is the first baby step you need to take?
- At the heart of who we are at The Gathering is the simple mission: be near. Discuss some practical ideas about how you can develop closer relationships apart from Sundays.

Commit...

Think and pray through your answers to the following questions in order to commit your life to living out what you've learned this week:

- What are some of the main truths/passages that God wants you to know from this message?
- Based on that truth/passage, what is an action that you can start to implement today or tomorrow?