

## SESSION 2

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What is your goal in life? Is it to be rich, popular, or famous? To be successful in your dream job? To get married and have a family? To be respected and admired? To have people wait on you and serve you? To be “in charge”? If given the opportunity, would you rather be the boss or the employee? Would you rather own the building or be the janitor?

Part of our sinful human nature is the desire for prestige, affirmation, and power. We want what we don't have and seek what we think will fulfill us. Many of us try to live two lives, one in which we can be powerful and amass wealth and the other as a Christian who looks good in God's eyes.

Being a true disciple, however, takes surrender. We simply cannot serve both God and the world (see Matthew 6:24). In this session, you will hear of several people like Ananias, Sapphira, Saul, and Simon the Magician, among others. They are not unlike us today, seeking power in a variety of different ways. Proud people often look at these flawed characters and feel superior; humble people look at them and see a little bit of themselves.

In the midst of each situation, pay close attention to how the apostles act and react. In their witness, you will see the face, voice, and presence of God, in His Holy Spirit.

### THE CHAPTERS COVERED IN THIS LESSON

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### OPENING QUESTION

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### VERSE TO REMEMBER

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### BREAKING IT DOWN

1. What was the first miracle recorded in Acts (3:1-10)?  

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2. How does Peter refer to Christ (3:15) in His address in the Temple?  

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3. Why was the Sanhedrin annoyed with Peter and John in Acts 4?  

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4. Where does boldness come from?  

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5. In what ways does the Holy Spirit's power work “most powerfully” through the apostles (in chapters 4 and 5)?  

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6. In the second trial (Acts 5:27-42), what do we learn through Gamaliel's wisdom?
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7. What qualities did the apostles look for in the seven men chosen as deacons in chapter six, and what purpose did they serve?
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8. Where did Stephen say that Israel had gone wrong and what was their response?
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9. What did Simon the Magician try to do and what was Peter's response?
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10. What was the Eunuch's response to Philip when asked if he understood the reading (8:31)?
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## NOTES

Sample