

The New Normal | Acts 4:32-5:16

2021 Spring Toolkit #8

Administration: Please **mark your calendars** for **AUGUST!!** I am excited to put names with faces so please plan to attend one of the training sessions when we Kick off for next fall. **Harrison Lane: August 15th at either 9:30 or 11:00 in the Shed. Roane County: August 22th at 9:30. Bearden: August 8th at 11:15.** If you are not planning to lead in the fall, please contact me soon so we can plan for your group.

Announcement: There are evaluations on the bottom of the Group webpage for those who would like to give feedback. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2rcgroups>

My Story Questions

These questions help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one.

- 1) Memorial Day is coming up. Who has had military service or been part of a military family?
- 2) When have you received a gift of money or resources that was an especially helpful blessing.

Study Questions

These are meant for personal preparation and group discussion. Use all or pick a few to discuss.

Read 4:32-36

1) Describe the believers attitude toward their possessions. When have you seen evidence of this same attitude in christians today. How is this a good witness to the world?

2) Could your holding back of time, money, resources be keeping someone from Jesus? Who?

Read 5:1-11

3) What sins were Annanias and Saphira guilty of? Why do you think God judged these two so harshly at this time in church history? How is this a gracious warning for future generations?

4) What could have resulted if they had been honest about the condition of their heart. (James 5:16)

5) What keeps Christians from confessing their struggles to one another?

6) How can being **relationally connected** help one overcome temptation before sin is born?

7) How did these events make the other believers feel (11)? How does it make you feel?

8) What are the benefits to having a fear of God. (Proverbs 1:7, Ps 64:9)

Read 5:12-16

9) List all the miracles listed or implied from 4:32 to 5:16? What do we learn about God's authority? God's omniscience? God's holiness? God's grace? How can these truths keep

Responding to Jesus

These questions are meant for personal reflection before your group prayer time.

1) How has the **Holy Spirit empowered** a change in the way you see your possessions?

2) Ask God what sin are you trying to hide? Ask Him who to show you with whom you might share your struggle?

Further Challenge

1) How are Peter's words to Ananias (vs3) a reminder of original sin in the garden. (Genesis 3) What parallels do you see? How does that make you revere God's Word?

The New Normal
“The Authentic Life”
Acts 4:32-5:16

Big Idea: *The New Normal* is an authentic life with Jesus and others.

God’s power and heart were on display. (v. 4:32-35)

The message = Jesus is alive!

The result = radical generosity

God’s power and heart were *still* on display. (v. 4:36-5:11)

God cares about your heart.

Time to “get real” --- *The real me is the new me*

Don’t run --- you can’t anyway!

The Result → More people followed Jesus than ever! (v. 5:12-16)

Two Rivers’ Core Values

Gospel-centered -- Word-dependent -- Spirit-empowered -- Relationally Connected

Next Steps:

Put the values of a disciple into action by asking Jesus to guide you:

- “Jesus, who do you want to see you?” (Name them)
- “Jesus, how am I in the way?” (Demonstrate “Gospel generosity”)
- “Jesus, where do I need to get real?” (Do it!)

