



# God Helps People Teach the Gospel

Lesson 3

**Theme:** Truthfulness — Lying as sin against God

## Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts:

Sailing Through the Bible Facts

Memory Verse:

Reproduce a worksheet, such as the sample on page 69 of this Guide, providing one for each student. Have the students complete the worksheet, trying first without using a Bible. If necessary, allow students to use the Bible to finish or correct the worksheet. Remind students that next Sunday will be the day for each one to recite the Memory Verse in class.

Prayer

Teaching Today's Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read Acts 5:1-5, 7-10. Have reading students find and mark Acts 5:1 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today's events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to show Jerusalem on a map.
5. Introduce Lesson Graphics using the *Journeys for Jesus Suitcase* as described on page 9 in this Guide.
6. Tell the story using the *Gospel is for All Lesson Graphics* and other props such as play money in a bag and the scene created in number 8 below.
7. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students' ages:
  - Satan tried to stop the gospel by hurting people who spoke it to others.
  - The apostles kept on preaching because they decided to obey God instead of men.
  - Satan also tried to stop the gospel by tempting Christians to lie and sin.
  - God punished Ananias and Sapphira for sinning, but the gospel kept on going.

8. Create a jail scene using strips of black poster board for bars. Make three bars on the left side of the base paper that wrap around the top and bottom of the page. Then attach a moveable flap to the right side, creating the jail door. On the front of the flap add three bars as done to the paper on the left side. Cut out the figures of the two apostles on page 71 of this Guide and “put them in prison” behind the bars on the left. Attach the men to a white strip of poster board that is attached to the handle of the door. Let each student be the angel and open the jail door

to let the apostles out of prison. When the students pull to open the door, the men will come out of jail. When they close the door the men will go back into the jail.



9. In the *Journeys for Jesus Suitcase*, bring the related Lesson Graphics to use in telling the story. Tell how the apostles were put in jail for preaching the gospel. Read together Acts 5:3-4, and discuss how Ananias and Sapphira lied to God. Discuss the fact that telling a lie is a sin against the person lied to and against God.

Assign parts and have students act out the story of Ananias and Sapphira as you read the passage aloud.

#### Things to Get or Do for Sunday Morning

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Lesson 3

# God Helps People Teach the Gospel



**Theme:** Truthfulness — Lying as sin against God

## Wednesday Night Lesson

### Pre-Class Activity

**Bible Facts:** Sailing Through the Bible Facts

**Memory Verse:** Reproduce a worksheet, such as the sample on page 70 of this Guide, providing one for each student. Have the students complete the worksheet, trying first without using a Bible. If necessary, allow students to use the Bible to finish or correct the worksheet. Remind students that next Sunday will be the day for everyone to recite the Memory Verse in class. Work with struggling students as time allows.

### Prayer

### Starter

Imagine playing a game of tug of war. Your team, the Yankers, has lost the first two rounds, but you will soon play two more. The Yankers get together to discuss a new strategy. What you've done so far has not worked, so you discuss some changes. Your team comes up with the idea of changing the order of people pulling the rope. You decide that a couple of team members will not pull hard for the first few minutes to save their strength to the end when the other team is tired. The Yankers are excited because the new strategy brings new hope of winning.

Preaching the gospel made a huge impact. The number of believers grew to about 5,000. Satan would not just stand by and watch all this without trying to stop it. He quickly developed a strategy and set his tactics in motion to stop the gospel.

Briefly review the lesson from Sunday morning and read Acts 5:1-5, 7-10.

### Illustrations and Applications

1. **Objective:** To help students see how Satan works to stop the spread of the gospel

Talk with the students about how Satan tried to stop the spread of the gospel. He tried hurting believers by putting some in jail and tempting believers to lie. If one way didn't work, Satan tried another. With the students' input, list on the marker board ways that Satan may try to stop Christians today from teaching the gospel. Examples: being lazy, distracted by creating problems among Christians, or too busy with other things.

2. **Objective:** *To reinforce the story about Ananias and Sapphira*

Have students retell the story of Ananias and Sapphira from Acts 5 that they studied in class Sunday morning.

3. **Objective:** *To demonstrate intervening early*

In the case of Ananias and Sapphira, God intervened quickly and swiftly. The reason for this may be that the whole Christian movement was beginning, and He wanted to impress on everyone the importance of honesty and integrity. We may see a similar pattern in God's intervention in the case of Nadab and Abihu and the beginning of the priesthood (Leviticus 10). To illustrate this principle, tell the students that they will have an opportunity to create a little chaos in class — walking around, throwing paper wads, jumping up and down, and so forth. Demonstrate the process in two ways. First, let the chaos go on for a while and then try to stop it. Second, let the chaos begin, but stop it immediately. Talk with the students about which method is better and why. Make application of God's intervening early with Ananias and Sapphira.

4. **Objective:** *Reinforce the facts about people and events in the lesson*

Prepare cards on two different colors of card stock. One set of cards has names and the other set of cards has identities and actions. This teaching game is a combination of matching and concentration. Place all the cards face down. For each turn, a student draws one card of each color. They are looking for the identity or event that matches the name. For younger students, place fewer cards. Ideas for cards are as follows:

Ananias & Sapphira	Died because they lied to God
Gamaliel	Leader of Jews who knew no one can stop God
Peter & John	Said we must obey God rather than men
Satan	Goes after people like a roaring lion
Jewish Leaders	Put the apostles in jail for preaching
Jesus	Resurrection proved He is God's Son
Pentecost	Day the gospel was first preached
Jerusalem	Place the gospel was first preached
Joel	Prophet who told of the coming of the Spirit

*Journeys for Jesus Journal*

I am the apostle John. Some of the Jews in Jerusalem hate the apostles for preaching the gospel. They put Peter and me in jail. I am glad to go to jail for Jesus because ...