

You Can't Fake Freedom

Devoted: 6 Habits for a Growing Relationship with God

January 9, 2022 Acts 4:32-37-5:11 Pastor Joe Le-Mon

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

JOHN 16:14 (NIV)

Devoted to Honesty

What does it look like to be devoted to God and a Christian community? In this message from the Devoted series, we'll look to a situation that occurred in the early church. Only when we pursue a devotion to **honesty, confession**, and humility, through the power of the Holy Spirit, (aka Spirit of Truth,) can we begin to walk in undeniable freedom. This **freedom** is one you cannot fake, and a freedom that the world will take notice of.

The Way of Jesus

When people look at your life, are they able to tell that you follow the Way of Jesus?

> ACTS 5:1-11

*Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to **the Holy Spirit** and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to **God**."*

ACTS 5:3-4 (NIV)

Opposing Identities

Ananias - "favored of the Lord"

Sapphira - "pleasing, peacefully or harmoniously composed."

These two were favored and pleasing to God as they were. But instead of being their **genuine** selves, they chose to be fake instead.

When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.

ACTS 5:5 (NIV)

When we are fraudulent about who we are, it kills us from the inside out.

The Spirit of Truth

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. The more we encounter the Truth of Christ, the more we encounter the truth about ourselves.

Make it Personal

- What areas in your life do you feel like you've been faking it?
- What step of accountability do you need to put in place this week that will help you stop living in lies?

Encounter Truth Every Day

One Story that Leads to Jesus

A great way to immerse yourself in the Truth of God's Word is to make reading it a daily habit! Join church family (and believers around the world) to read through the Bible using this one-year plan in the Youversion Bible app:

bit.ly/onestorybibleplan