

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of Mar 29-30, 2025

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

Contagious Generosity and Blatant Hypocrisy

(Acts 4:32-5:11)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud Acts 4:32-5:11.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

How easy or difficult does living generously come to you?

Read aloud the following quote from Roman Emperor Julian written in the fourth century – *"It is disgraceful that, when no Jew ever has to beg, and these godless Galileans care not only for their own poor but for ours as well, all men see that our people lack aid from us."*

How similar or dissimilar could today's Christian church be described?

Generosity can be challenging, and yet the early church modeled this in a dramatic way! (vs. 32-37).

Pastor Alan highlights four hearts shifts that enabled this type of generosity to happen.

First, there was a heart shift from me to we. (4:32)

Why is it so hard to have a “one in heart and mind” mentality around our resources?

Why does it seem like those with the least often exhibit the trait of generosity more powerfully?

If desired, what steps could you take to have a greater shift from me to we?

Second, there was a heart shift from ownership to management. (4:32)

How easy or difficult is it for you to see the resources at your disposal as ultimately belonging to God vs. you?

How well was this concept of shared resources practiced in your home growing up? How well is it modeled in your home today?

If desired, what steps could you take to start releasing the personal ownership of the resources around you?

Third, there was a heart shift from guilt to grace. (4:33)

Read together 2 Cor. 9:7. When have you experienced this type of cheerfulness when giving generously?

When have you been the recipient of someone else’s generosity? How did this feel?

How might reflecting on God’s grace impact your ability to give generously to those around you?

Fourth, there was a heart shift from high control to humble trust. (4:34)

Where, if anywhere, has a lack of trust been a potential barrier to your generosity?

Where have you seen the power of giving corporately make impact on the world around you?

Within this portion of scripture, we encounter the contrasted lifestyles of Joseph, also called Barnabas (4:36-37) vs. Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11).

Why is the presence of these three individuals important in the telling of this story?

If you wrestle with this portion of scripture, share the tension you feel.

How could how this story plays out make sense with the character of God?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend’s message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.