

Date: Nov 27, 2011

Name: Ron Baker

Talk Title: Amazing Acts – Acts 5:1-11 “Pretending to be something you are not”

---

### 1. **Sunday Summary:**

Often we have to look back in order to better understand how we got to where we are. This week we looked back to a very scary moment in the life of the early Church. There was this couple trying to pretend to be something they were not, they ended up paying for it with their lives. The big idea was this – “God is not interested in his people playing church.” In life we can fool others but we can’t fool God.

### 2. **Connecting Questions:** (Interactive, life sharing, thought and feeling)

- When the story was read on Sunday about Ananias & Sapphira what was your first reaction? What did you think? What did you feel?
- Have you ever had that conversation with someone who feels that the church is only filled with hypocrites? How did you respond?
- At times can you see yourself in the story?
- 

### 3. **Truth Questions:** (Discovering what God says from the Bible)

- What are some of the fears that keep people from taking the mask off? Why do people pretend to be something they are not?
- One of the thoughts put forward was, if we live pretending to be something we are not, it's as if we are dead. What do you think about that? Agree? Disagree? Why? Can you see how it might impact key relationships?
- One truth that was revealed last week was that many people live thinking they can fool God, but we can't. How does (*Psalms 139:1-12*) impact the way someone lives?
  - **Leader:** One example is how we drive different when a police officer is driving near us. We need to live with the thought that God is always present. Be careful not to take the police officer example to far, God is not a cop!!)
- God's desire for his people to live from a place of authenticity. How do you define an authentic person? How do you define an authentic follower of Christ? What does an authentic person look like?
- What are the benefits of living with the mask off? Living from a place of authenticity?

### 4. **Transformation Question:** (Taking it Further, Life Application)

- What steps are you going to take in your life that will help you take the mask off?
- How can your Home Group be part of that journey?

**Note to Leaders:** There might be some discussion of how it “appears” that God killed them and does he do that today? Well, here is my suggestion. Go down that path if you choose, but don't go down that path to far **J**. I encourage you to stay focused on the theme: **“Pretending to be are something you are not”**