

ACTS 5-6

THE CHURCH'S POWER

Chapter 5

Summary: Ananias and Sapphira lie to the Holy Spirit and are struck dead (1-11). The church continues to grow in power, healing all who are sick (12-16). The apostles are imprisoned for their works, but are set free by an angel of the Lord (17-21). They continue teaching in Jesus' name, are arrested again, and insist they must obey God (22-32). Frustrated but helpless, the authorities beat them and release them (33-42).

Lesson: *Power comes in Jesus' name for the faithful, pure, and persistent.*

Chapter 6

Summary: When a welfare distribution dispute arises, the apostles determine to delegate administrative matters to seven godly men. They choose, instead, to concentrate on prayer and ministry of the word (1-7). One of those chosen, Stephen, is put on trial for blasphemy (8-15).

Lesson: *Bible study and prayer should come before all else.*