



Have you asked God His plan?

By Derek Kiser on February 10, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Acts 5

Have you ever witnessed something or heard about something that made you think more seriously about life, about God and how much time you have on earth? The backdrop or context of this chapter is a scary story. Ananias and Sapphira. They did not take God's holiness seriously and tried to lie. The result was they died instantly and as Acts 5:5 tells us, *"And great fear came upon all who heard of it."*

Against that backdrop we see Peter and the Apostles on trial in verse 17 and following. They had been told not to teach about Jesus. They had been threatened. Did they listen? No, the apostles answered in verse 29, *"We must obey God rather than men."*

A wise Pharisee surprisingly asked the council to be cautious in their handling of this. Gamaliel says in verse 35, *"Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men."* And in verse 38-39, *"So in this present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!"*

I asked the question in the title, "Have you asked God His plan?" We as Christians like to think we have all the answers. We plan events, do ministry and think our ideas are the best. Even as one who is on staff at a church I sometimes plan things I know God would want me to do without asking Him. We should be careful to spend time with God to make sure we are not doing ministry on our own in our own power. We should make sure we are joining God in His work and asking God what He wants us to do. I would never, under the guise of doing ministry my way, want to be in opposition to what God is doing. I want God to do with me and the people around me what He wants. If the plans are solely mine they will fail. Have you asked God what His plan is or are you operating your life on your abilities and understanding? Even a Pharisee on the wrong side of the trial named Gamaliel realized we should be cautious in this area.

PRAYER: God, help me spend time with You and desire to know Your plan. Don't let me work against You and Your plan for my life because I have not asked. Change my heart to do Your will.

TOMORROW'S READING: Acts 6

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