**Session Three: Acts Chapter 5 and 6**

**Overview**

* Chapter One
  + The Ascension
  + The selection of Mathais
* Chapter Two
  + The Day of Pentecost
  + Peters first sermon and response
* Chapter Three
  + Lame man healed.
  + Peter’s second sermon.
* Chapter Four
  + First persecution.
  + Peter’s address to the Sanhedrin
* Chapter Five
  + Ananias and Sapphira
  + Second persecution
* Chapter Six
  + Selection of deacons.
  + Third persecution

**Relating to the Holy Spirit**

* Lying to the Holy Spirit – Acts 5
* Grieving the Holy Spirit – Ephesians 4:30
* Resisting the Holy Spirit – Acts 7:51
* Blaspheming the Holy Spirit – Mark 3:28-30; the unforgiveable sin.
* Receive the Holy Spirit – John 20:21-23

**Lying to the Holy Spirit**

* Ananias and Sapphira conspired to lie to Peter about the sale of their property.
* The error was not the gift that was given (money from the sale).
* The error was not the sale of the land.
* The error was not the giving of the gift.
* The offence was their hypocrisy and lying – not to Peter, but to God the Holy Spirit
* Note 1 John 5:16-17 – sin leading unto death.
* Great FEAR came upon the church – first time “church” is used in NT.
* Many signs and wonders
* Unity among the people
* Church growth – multitudes – no longer numbered – too many?
* Peter’s shadow and miracles

**Note:**

* When the church is obedient God pours out His Spirit (Spirit filled)
* When the church is Spirit filled the church is pure (no hypocrisy)
* When the church is pure the church is powerful
* When the church is powerful the church impacts the culture (signs/wonders)

**The Second Persecution**

* Apostles arrested and put in common prison by the High Priest.
* The Jewish leadership was filled with jealousy.
* Supernatural release from prison.
* Speak the words of life.
* The gathering of the council – no prisoners
* Do not teach in the name of Jesus.
* Filled Jerusalem with this doctrine and His blood is upon our heads.
* Peter
  + We will obey God – not man.
  + God raised Jesus up (from the dead); whom you crucified.
  + God has exalted Jesus – repentance and forgiveness for Israel in Him.
  + We are His witnesses.
* Gamaliel’s Counsel
* Beaten and released rejoicing.

**Chapter Six – Deacons**

* The dispute among the widows
* The selection criteria
  + One from among you.
  + One trusted.
  + One filled with the Holy Spirit.
  + One with wisdom.

**Stephen**

* Spirit filled and ministered in powerful signs and wonders.
* Jealously and conflict
* Stephen was a gifted orator and witness to the faith.
* They could not cope with Him spiritually.
* Brought before the council.
* False witnesses, liars, and false accusations.
* His face was like that of an angel.