

# “A DEADLY GAME”

*(Acts 4:36 - 5:11)*

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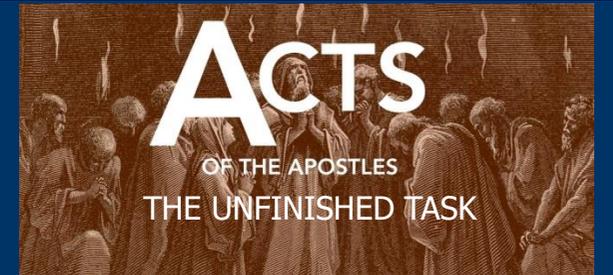
*Expository Sermon of Acts - Sermon 11*

*Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam*

*Date: December 23, 2018*

*Place: Hope Community Baptist Church*

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# INTRODUCTION:



# Playacting Game



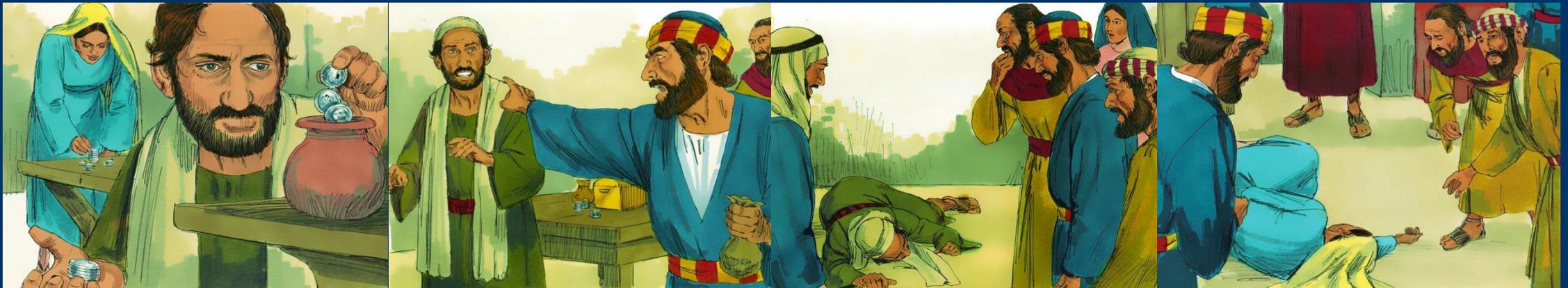
# INTRODUCTION:



Who are YOU  
going to be  
today?



## Playacting Game = Hypocrite



# I. AUTHENTIC GENEROSITY

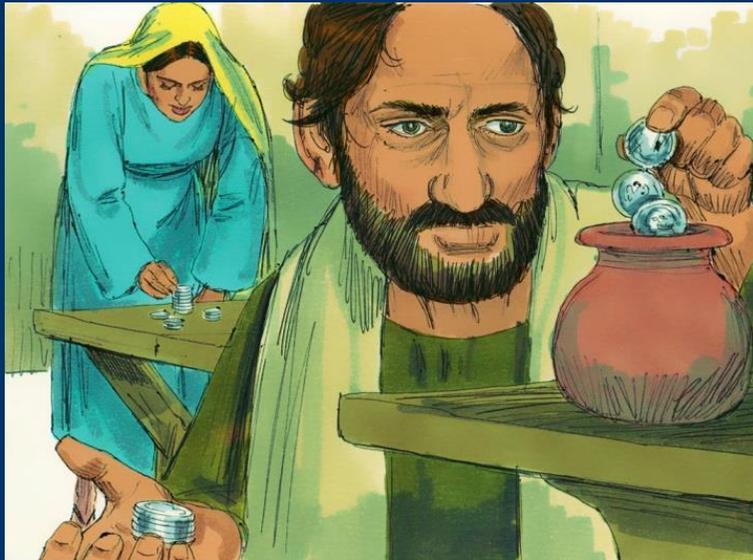


## *Good Model: **Barnabas***

***Acts 4:32** All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.*

## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### *Bad Model: Ananias & Sapphira*



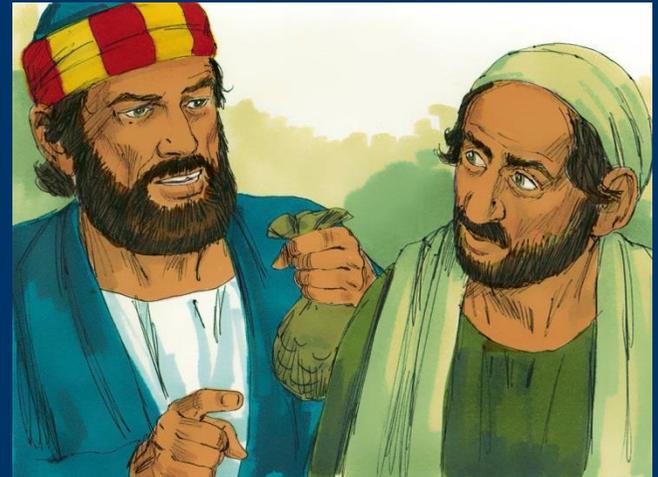
***Acts 5:1** Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. <sup>2</sup> With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.*

## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

#### 1) *Declaration of Ananias.*

**Acts 5:2** *With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.*

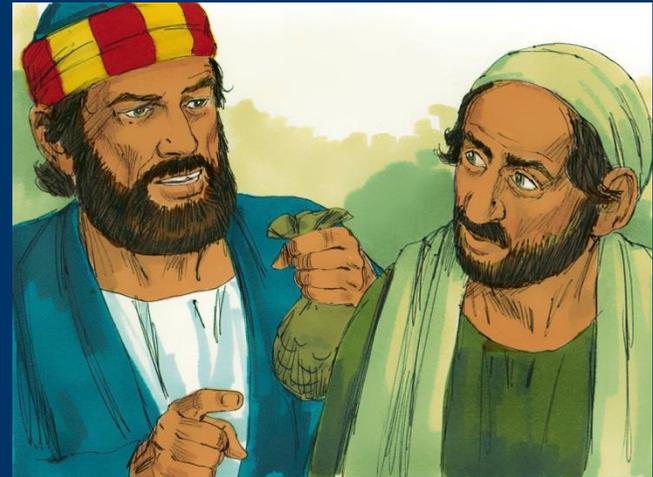


## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

#### 2) *Pretension before the body.*

**Acts 5:2** *With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.*

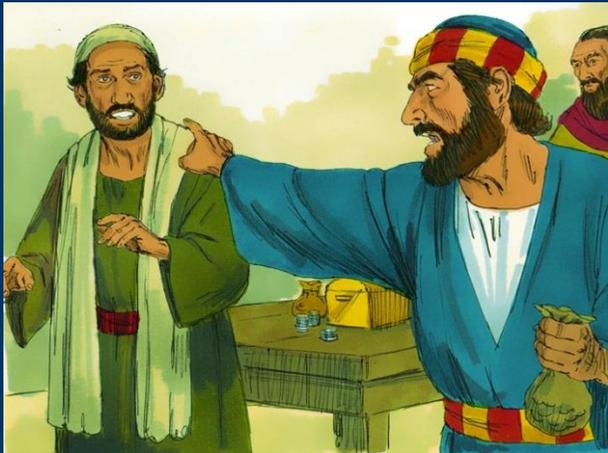


## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

#### 3) *Confrontation by Peter.*

**Acts 5:3** *Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?"*



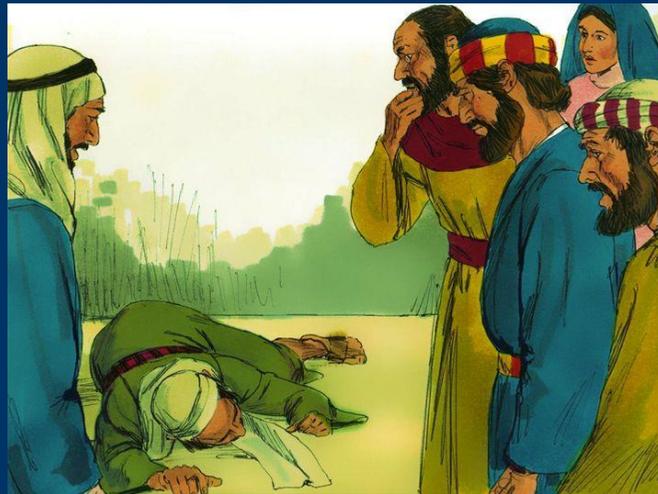
**4** *Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."*

## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

#### 4) *Judgment from God.*

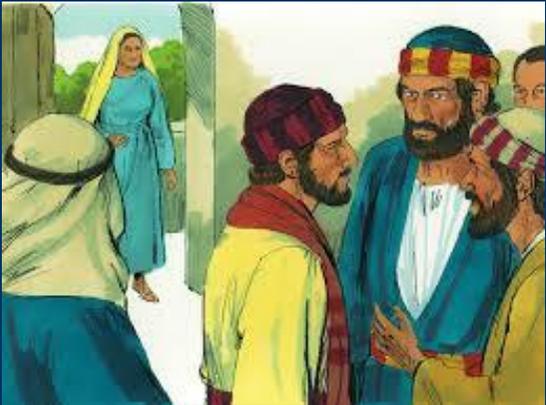
**Acts 5:5** *When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. <sup>6</sup> Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.*



## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

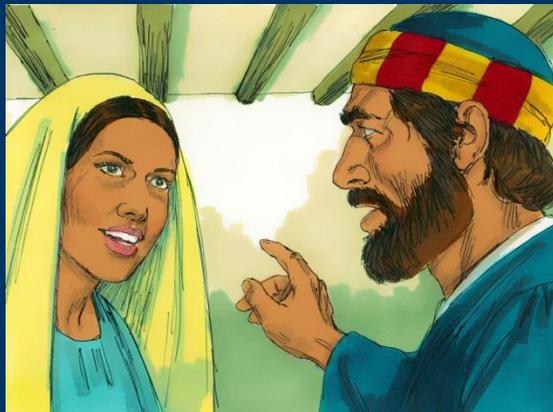
### A) Cycle of Events

#### 4) Judgment from God.



**Acts 5:7** *About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.*

**Acts 5:8a** *Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?"*



**Acts 5:8b** *"Yes, that was the price."*

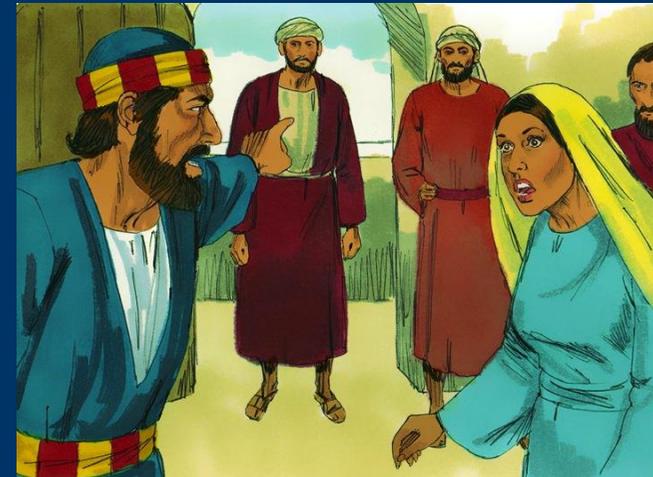
**Acts 5:8a** *Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?"*

## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

#### 4) *Judgment from God.*

**Acts 5:9** *Peter said to her, "How could you conspire to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also."*

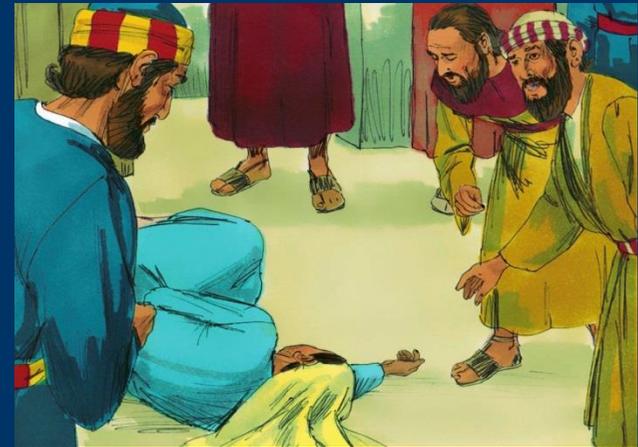


## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### A) *Cycle of Events*

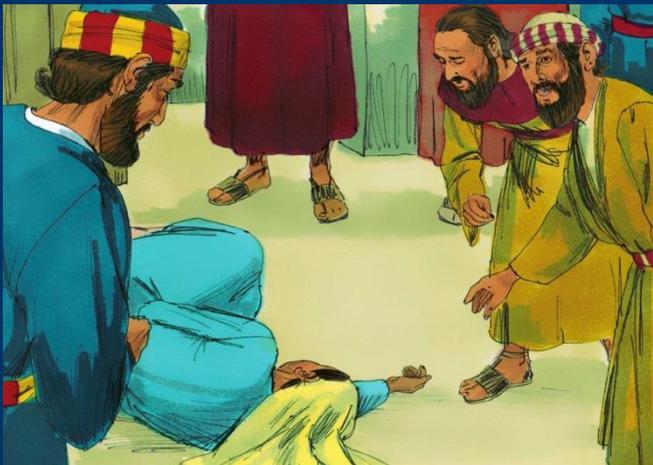
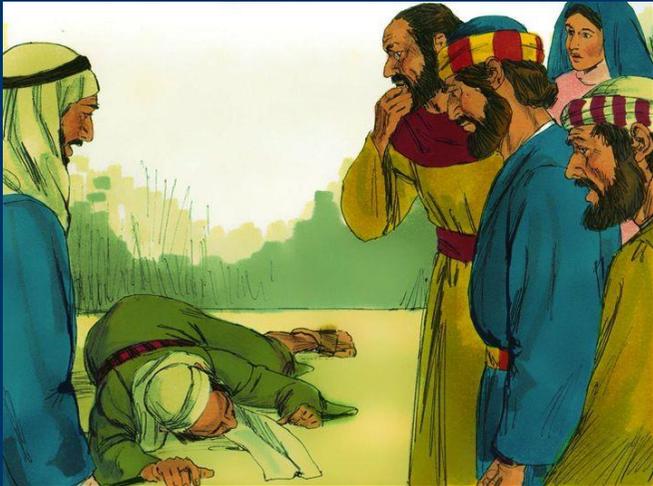
#### 4) *Judgment from God.*

**Acts 5:10** *At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband.*



## II. PRETENTIOUS HYPOCRISY

### *B) Analysis of Sin*



It was a premeditated deed.

It was not an innocent mistake or oversight.

It was planned to deceive.

The heart of their action was pride.

Their desire was to grab some glory.

They were unwilling to be humble, admit the truth and repent.

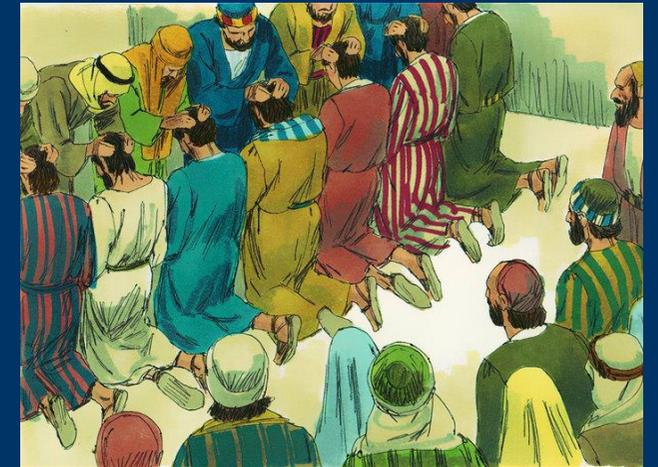
# III. SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY

**Acts 5:11** *Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.*

## **A) Responsibility to Ourselves**

*Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
Try me and know my anxious thoughts;  
And see if there be any hurtful way in me,  
And lead me in the everlasting way.*

**Ps. 139:23-24**



Search me, O God,  
and know my heart!  
Try me and know  
my thoughts!

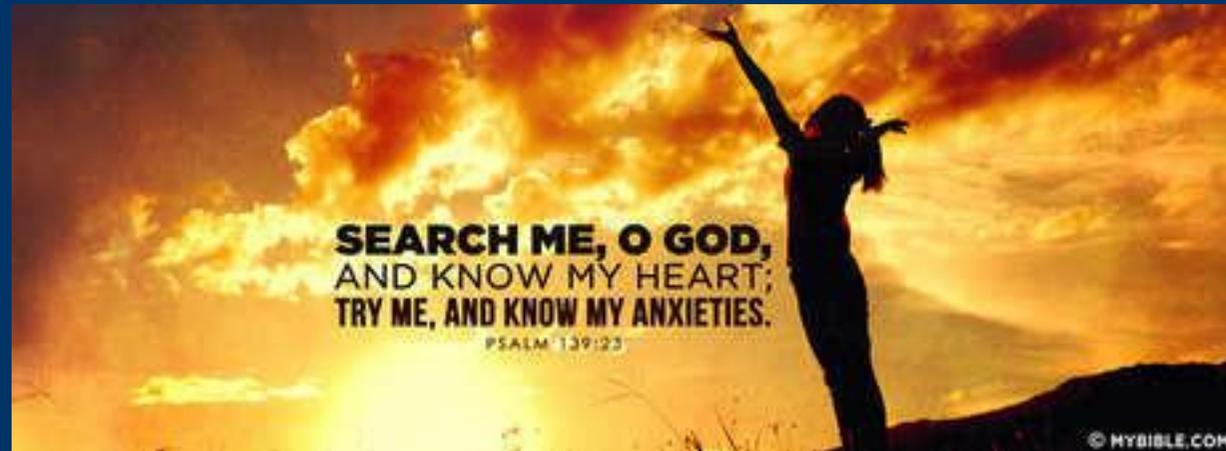
PSALM 139:23



# III. SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY

## *B) Responsibility to God*

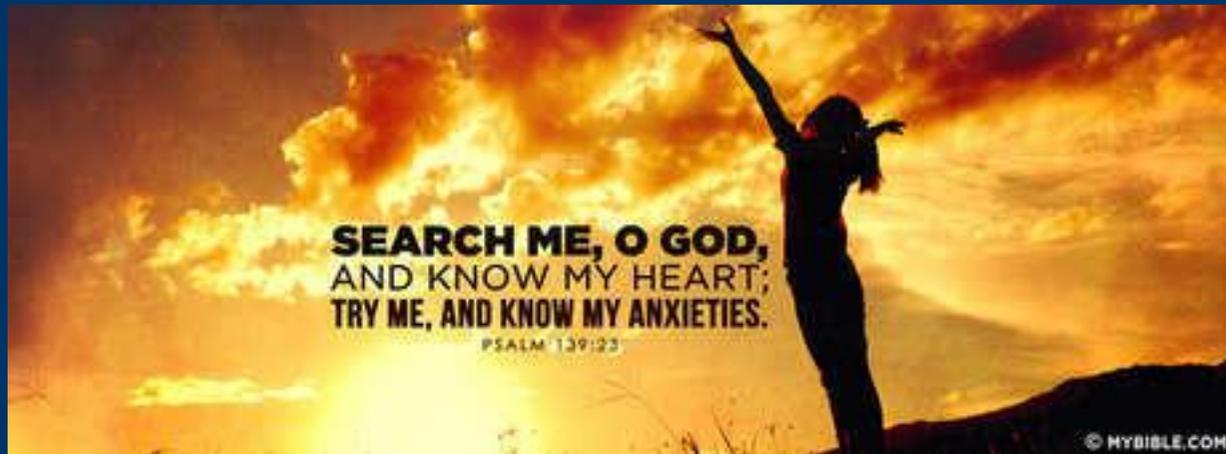
**Ps. 32:2-3** *How blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit! When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.*



# III. SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY

## *C) Responsibility to the Body*

**Rom. 12:9** *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.*

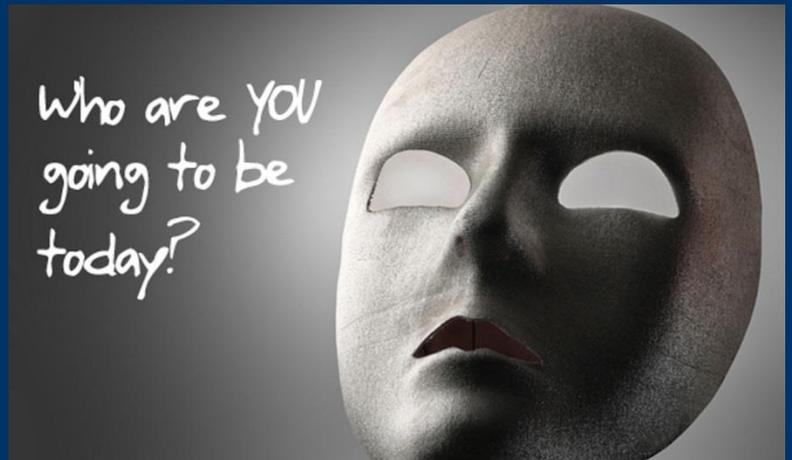


# CONCLUSION:



As we reflect on the story of Ananias and Sapphira, we learned three lessons on how to avoid hypocrisy in Christ.

- 1) Be generous and give with a right motive.***
- 2) Be true and avoid any form of hypocrisy.***
- 3) Be responsible and accountable to your action.***





# CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you played the game call playacting when you were young? What was it like? Do you still play the game now?*
- 2. Have you encountered anyone that has demonstrated generosity in your life? Share an example that you remember.*
- 3. Why does Jesus say about hypocrisy? Quote an example of hypocrisy that Jesus pointed out. Why do you think Jesus condemns such behavior?*
- 4. Why must we take responsibility to our action and be accountable for it?*



*Scripture References:*

*Acts 4:36 - 5:11*