

Internal Corruption

Acts: 4:32-5:11

Acts: The Real Church

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Three clear evidences of the Holy Spirit's work in the life of any particular church;

1. Great **grace** is experienced when the Holy Spirit is working. V.32, 33b-35.
 - a. People that have experienced God's grace are **unified**.
 - b. People who have experienced God's grace are **gracious** v.32,34a.
 - c. People who have experienced God's grace are **sacrificial** v.34b-35.
2. Great **power** is experienced when the Holy Spirit is working v.33. In order for a message to be delivered there are three requirements
 - a. A **message** worth hearing
 - b. Someone **to listen** to the message.
 - c. A messenger with **credibility**.
3. Great **fear** is experienced when the Holy Spirit is working 5:1-11. Ananias and Sapphira's sin revealed something about them
 - a. It revealed **pride** (v.2,4,9).
 - b. It revealed **covetousness** (v.1-2).
 - c. It revealed **hypocritical deception** (v.3-4).
 - d. It revealed a **lack of faith** (v.2-3).
 - e. It revealed a lack of the **fear of God** (v.5-11.).

Take away this:

- Spirit filled churches are unified, loving fellowships where **sharing** is the **norm**.
- Spirit filled churches where there is unfeigned love and generosity have a **powerful message** for society.
- Spirit filled churches live in **awe (fear)** of God and sense that they are always in His presence.
- We dare not think we can **luxuriate** in God's love and grace to the point we think he takes no note of **deliberate sin**. [1 Jn 5:16-17]