

BE BOLD in witnessing!

Stephen was a faithful witness and he paid for it with his life. Sometimes witnessing may cause us great trouble. Stephen found that out, but he didn't let it stop him. He kept on witnessing.

Use your Bible to discover why we need to be brave even though witnessing is tough. Answer the questions in your own words.

Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-27. Paul understood how witnessing could bring him trouble. What were some of the troubles he experienced because of his preaching?



Most of us may not go through what Paul did, but we may have to face some frightening things if we are faithful witnesses for the Lord. How can we keep from being afraid?



Read Hebrews 13:6. What does it tell us?

Jesus warned His followers that they would have trouble in the world. Why should we be cheerful instead of discouraged by these troubles?

Read John 16:33. Write down what it says.

Read Hebrews 13:5-6. Write down what it says.

Read 1 Peter 2:20. Write down what it says.



Today, we may not face as much physical persecution as the early believers did. However, we definitely have our own challenges. We should always be bold like the early believers and persist in our endeavors to preach God's gospel to all mankind.

Growing Our Church with Love

Today, we learned about Barnabas, who became one of the very important workers during the apostolic times. Not only did he join the apostles in preaching the gospel, he also took care of the members with great love. Barnabas sold his land and gave his money to the apostles in order to aid the church's ministry. He also spent a great deal of time in encouraging other church members while preaching the word of God boldly.



The love of God inspired him to love others. He loved them and cared for their souls.

As you can see, growing a church requires its members to love and care for one another. Imagine what would happen to our church under these scenarios:

- **No one is willing to teach and/or preach the word of God.**
- **No one tithes to the church.**
- **No one cares about those who haven't come to church for a while.**



We can be today's apostles to preach the gospel, and love and care for others!

If each one of us here is like Barnabas, our church will continue to grow under the grace of our Lord!



WE SHOULD NOT be
ashamed
of the gospel

Read each of the scenarios below.

If you were in these situations, how would you answer?

1. Your friends invited you to go swimming with them this Saturday. The last time they invited you, you declined because you had to go to church. They made fun of you and said it was strange that you go to church on Saturdays because their churches observe the Sabbath on Sundays. This time, you have to explain to them again the reason you cannot go.



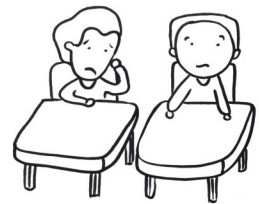
What would you say?

2. One of your classmates, Juno, is sitting at the same table as you during lunch, and you are about to start eating. Last time, when you and Juno were at the same table, he laughed at you when he saw you saying grace before you ate. You were embarrassed.



What are you going to do? Will you say grace in front of him again?

3. Your best friend's grandmother is critically ill, and he is extremely worried. He is very frustrated because he doesn't know what he can do to help his grandmother. As a Christian, you know that the best thing your friend can do right now is to pray to God, but he doesn't know how since he's not a Christian.



What would you do? Would you teach him how to pray?

4. You and your friends are playing basketball together. Some of your team members have a habit of saying "Oh, my God!" or "Jesus Christ!" when they are frustrated, and they often say them out loud when they are playing basketball. As a Christian, you know that they are using God's name in vain.



What would you do? Would you correct them?

we should not
Deceive
 the workers of God

“Satan has filled [his] heart to lie to the Holy Spirit.” As Christians, we know that lying is a sin in God’s eyes.



Ananias allowed Satan to dominate over the Spirit of God in his heart.

He chose Satan over God!

The Spirit of God is working within us, constantly reminding us of the word of God and guiding us on the right path. When we feel this way, there is often a spiritual battle within our hearts—a battle between God’s Spirit and Satan.

While the Spirit of God reminds us that lying is a sin in God’s eyes, Satan is working hard to convince us that lying is a much better choice.



When we experience this type of battle in our hearts, it is important for us to **listen to the voice of God**.

What is God saying to us?
 What is the Spirit telling us is right in God’s eyes?

Ananias and Sapphira chose to hear what Satan was telling them.

Say a prayer in our hearts and ask God to strengthen us so that we can be strong enough to follow His ways. When we pray to God with a sincere heart to obey Him, God will surely give us strength to overcome Satan.



E2 Year 3 Book 1 Lesson 4—Barnabas, Stephen, Ananias, and Sapphira

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (**Romans 12:13**)

Fill In the Blank

1. But Stephen, "being full of the _____, gazed into heaven and saw the _____ of God, and _____ standing at the right hand of God, and said, 'Look! I see the _____ opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'" (Acts 7:55-56)
2. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your _____ to lie to the _____ and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own _____? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to _____." (Acts 5:3-4)

True or False

3. When Paul was converted, all the apostles and believers in the church immediately welcomed him. _____
4. Stephen was stoned to death for preaching the gospel, becoming the first Christian to die for the gospel. _____
5. Ananias and Sapphira did not have to lie about giving all their possessions to the church because there was no such requirement from the church. _____

Short Answer

6. Do you feel that you are an encouraging person like Barnabas? List 2 encouraging things you can do or say and to whom you will do or say these things.

7. Are there people in your lives to whom you should be preaching? Write down 2 obstacles that are stopping you from preaching to them. Then, write down how you can overcome these obstacles.

