

## CURRENT SERIES

# MONSTERS

We all face spiritual monsters. These monsters seek to devour our faith, pulling us away from the victory we have in Christ. As we seek to live faithful lives of obedience to God, there are monsters that we come up against—pride, fear, and inaction. Thankfully, the battle isn't ours alone to fight—Christ is the true monster-slayer, offering us freedom through His death and resurrection.

## MESSAGE NOTES

### Monsters: Pride

Acts 4:32-5:11 | Pastor Matthew Starner

Pride is the inclination of the human heart to prize and protect \_\_\_\_\_ above all others.

To be prideful is to have the small, but valuable real estate of your heart so full of yourself that there's no room for \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ else.

Pride keeps us hostage to ourselves because it doesn't let us \_\_\_\_\_ with the people around us.

Acts 5:1-11: Ananias and Sapphira

Their deception wasn't withholding money. It's that they lied about \_\_\_\_\_.

In their pride, they \_\_\_\_\_ to fill up every square inch of the tiny real estate of their hearts.

**Matthew 23:27-28 NLT:** For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people’s bones and all sorts of impurity. <sup>28</sup>Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.

We can never add so many layers of paint to the outside that we can \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead bones inside.

What would happen if we all let Jesus break down our \_\_\_\_\_ so no one feels like that need to pretend to be \_\_\_\_\_ at church?

# TALK IT OVER

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These discussion questions can help you take today's sermon and help you apply it to your life or find your next steps. Use these questions with your family, with friends, or in your own personal devotion time.

1. Have you ever tried to fool God? What happened?
2. Read Acts 4:32-37. How well does verse 32 describe your relationship with others in your church?
3. Read Acts 5:1-11. What was wrong with what Ananias and Sapphira did? What would they gain by lying about the money?
4. Why do we feel the need to make others think our lives are perfect and that we don't struggle with any sort of temptation?
5. What kind of person would you be willing to open up and share your weakness with?
6. How can you be more like that person this week?

# THIS WEEK IN THE BIBLE

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Take today's message beyond Sunday and into the rest of your week. Read and reflect on these verses alone, with your family, or with a friend. Talk about how they apply to your life today or what God might be teaching you through His Word.

<b>Sunday</b>	Acts 4:32-5:11
<b>Monday</b>	Galatians 6:3
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 John 2:16
<b>Wednesday</b>	Philippians 2:3
<b>Thursday</b>	Romans 12:16
<b>Friday</b>	Proverbs 29:23
<b>Saturday</b>	James 4:6

# ONLINE NOTES

You can also take notes and engage with the message using the **YouVersion Bible** app. With **YouVersion Events** you can follow along with the message, take notes, read related Bible verses, ask questions, and more.