

STOWMARKET BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY BIBLE CLUB

19 JULY 2020

HELLO...

It's nearly the summer holidays and I'm enjoying the sunshine.

I hope the last few days of school are fun.

Love Liz



We've been reading about God's 10 commandments and today it's number...

9

It is found in Exodus chapter 20 verse 16:

"Do not tell lies".

When we tell a lie, it means that we haven't told the truth. God's words are always true and that is why we can always trust everything He says.

Can your friends trust you to always tell the truth? When we tell lies, it makes us sad and our friends sad, too. Remember God always hears our words and when we lie, God says it is sin. Jesus died to take away our sin and if we say sorry and believe in Jesus, he will take away all our sin and help us to speak the truth. That is amazing good news and makes us happy.

Let's listen to a story from the Bible that will remind us why telling lies is wrong.

You can read the story in Acts 5 verses 1-11.

¹ Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 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.

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."

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

⁷ About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?"

"Yes," she said, "that is the price."

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."

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. ¹¹ Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events

Jesus had died and risen again and had not long gone back to Heaven and to His Father, God.

The Christians who met at the church were trying to help each other. Barnabas had some land that he sold and he gave all the money to the church to help those who were in need. Barnabas wanted everyone to have enough. The people who were in need were very thankful to Barnabus for looking after them, so well.

In the church there was a couple called Ananias (you say his name "Anna-ny-us") and his wife Sapphira (Saff-fire-a). They had a field that they didn't use and they thought it would be good to sell it and they could also give some money to the church.

One day the field was sold. Ananias and Sapphira were really happy. They counted out the coins of money, there were lots of coins to count.

Suddenly, Ananias had an idea!

"I think it's a good idea to give these coins to the church, but let's keep these others back for ourselves. We could buy some nice things with this money", said Ananias.

Now, let's think about this...

Ananias and Sapphira owned a



They sold the



for



That



was all theirs's. They could keep it all or give some or all of it away.

Let's see what went wrong...

Ananias hurried to see Peter, who was one of the church leaders. Ananias laid the bag of money at Peter's feet and said it was all the money they had got for the field. Was that true? No, it was a lie.

Peter felt very sad, remember that every time we lie we hurt other people. Peter said "You have not lied to men, but to God". God hears and sees everything we do and say.

Ananias was so shocked to remember that God knew the truth, that he fell down and died.

Sapphira came to see Peter, a few hours later and she also lied about the amount of money. Sadly, Sapphira died that same day, too. How very sad.

Ananias and Sapphira lied because they wanted to look good to everyone else in the church. They wanted other people to think they were very kind people. But it didn't work out that way, at all.

Ananias and Sapphira never got to enjoy or even to spend their money.

The Bible doesn't tell us that we will die, if we tell a lie, but it does teach us that telling a lie will get us into trouble, every time.

The only person who has never told a lie is ...



JESUS

and Jesus can not lie, because He is the Son of God.

So, if we love Jesus, we can ask Him to help us speak the truth, all the time, every day.

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you that you came to earth to die because we have all told lies and sinned against you. Lord Jesus please help us to be sorry for our sin and trust in you.

*Thank you that you always speak the truth and help me to be more like you each day.
Amen*