



Simple Words: Sorry

Matt VanCleave
October 23, 2022

GROUP ICE BREAKER

When have you received a sorry that helped heal a wound or situation?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will not hide and act like I don't need help.
- Like the servants in this story, I will do whatever Jesus tells me to do.
- I will serve with a "fill it to the brim" spirit.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

Even though words may be simple, they aren't always easy to say. This week, in Simple Words, we explore the word 'sorry.' Sorry is one of those words that, while simple, isn't always easy to use. Sorry requires humility, vulnerability, and surrender, and too often, we find ways to avoid it.

This week we are looking at the story of Ananias and Sapphira to learn not only how sorry is difficult, but what can go wrong when we refuse to say sorry. We will also explore three steps so that, as individuals and as a community, we can be a people marked by the simple word 'sorry.'

Join us this week as we are challenged and changed by the simple word, sorry.



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sorry isn't always an easy word to say, but it is often a word that we need to hear. When have you said sorry, and what was that experience like? When have you not received a sorry when you really needed it?
2. How do you think sorry and your relationship with God intertwine?
3. Read Acts 5:1-10 out loud. What stands out to you in these verses? What emotion or fear drove Ananias to his decision? What emotion or fear drove Sapphira?
4. What does Acts 5 teach you about God? How does this understanding of God impact your faith?
5. We don't like to acknowledge it, but we often act like Ananias and Sapphira and hold back things from God. Why do you hold things back, especially things that need to be confessed, from God? What belief or viewpoint do you need to change so that you don't feel the need to hold things back from God?



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6. Matt details a few steps to help us in the process of sorry. What has worked for you in the past when you have needed to use the simple word, sorry? What do you feel like you can do better when it is time to say sorry?

7. What is holding you back from doing a fearless search and moral inventory? What characteristic or attributes of God help counter that thing that is holding you back?

8. Have you ever actively practiced confessing your faults to God and others? What was that experience like? How will the practice of confession help you grow with God this week? How will the practice of confession help you grow with your community this week?

9. What thing has the Spirit placed on your heart this week that you need to actively practice making right? What is your plan of action? How can your small group support you in that?

10. Will you make asking God to deliver you at any cost the greatest priority of your life?

