

Stewardship and Honesty

Intro. A realistic portrait of the church (for Theophilus)

The power of God results in:

- The resurrection of the dead
- Speech at Pentecost
- The lame man walking
- The loosening of the tight grip on private property

The generosity of the first church (Acts 4:32-37)

1. Textual Flow

- Deception of Ananias (vv.1, 2)
- Discernment of Peter (vv.3,4)
- Death of the couple (vv. 5-11)
 - Why such a harsh reaction to the deception?

2. Peter's Question

A. "Why have you lied to God?" – there is a divine awareness of our stewardship

B. "Were you the owner?" Psalm 24

C. "Would you not be taken care of?" Phi. 4:19

3. How does this apply to the contemporary church?

- Honesty to the community
- Be careful about the security we find in materialisms