

Have you ever held back from something that you should have gone all in on?

The Example of "No Holding Back":

I. A Church with "No Holding Back"

³² And <u>the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul</u>; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. ³³ And with <u>great power the apostles</u> <u>were giving testimony</u> to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and <u>abundant grace was upon them all</u>. ³⁴ For <u>there was</u> <u>not a needy person among them</u>, for all who were <u>owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds</u> <u>of the sales ³⁵ and lay them at the apostles' feet</u>, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

A. The Church had______.

- B. The Church had______.
- C. The Church was a place where_____
- D. The Church had______.

II. A Disciple with "No Holding Back"

Acts 4:36-37 (NASB)

Acts 5:1–11 (NASB)

³⁶ Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

III. The Example of Holding Back

¹ <u>But</u> a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, ² and <u>kept back</u> some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. ³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to <u>keep back</u> some of the price of the land? ⁴ While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." ⁵ And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it. ⁶ The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.

⁷ Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, that was the price." ⁹ Then Peter said to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out as well." ¹⁰ And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last, and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. ¹¹ And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.

Acts 4:32–35 (NASB)



DOGGY BAG Something to take home and chew on!

1. Have you ever held back on something that you should have gone all in on? Have you ever gone halfway on something that you really should have gone 100% in?

2. Why do you hold back from identifying with Jesus? If Jesus stops at nothing to identify with us, sinful human beings, why do we hold back in identifying with Him?

3. Are there areas of your life where you find yourself playing church?

4. What's holding you back from going all in with Jesus?

Take a step in faith this week:

- 1. Let us know you are here today. Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday through either the Christ Church app or the Connection Card tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).
- Sign up for ministry newsletters. If you don't get the weekly Pastor's Newsletter, make sure you sign up for that one. We also have weekly updates for the ministry areas you are interested in. Sign up for any of these at CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/UPDATES.

Email Darla at <u>drivi@christchurchva.org</u> if you need help.

- 3. Check out our online bulletin each Sunday. Use the Christ Church app or the Resources tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform to access. Here's this week's edition: <u>https://conta.cc/3T3d4DH</u>
- 4. Register for our Fall Discipleship Leaders Retreat on Oct 28–30. Email Pam at pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org or check your bulletin to learn more.
- Come and bring the whole family to our Wednesday Night Dinner (5:30pm) & Discipleship (6:30pm). Join a class (pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org), serve in Kids' Ministry (agraybill@christchurchva.org) or join the Dinner Hospitality Team (badams@christchurchva.org).
- 6. Join us for Midday Prayer each weekday at noon on our Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).

ANSWER KEY:

A. AMAZING UNITY

C. GRACE WAS AT WORK

B. **POWERFUL TEACHING**

D. NO NEEDY PEOPLE

Point: HOLDING BACK FROM JESUS ONLY HOLDS YOU BACK.