



THE CHURCH IS

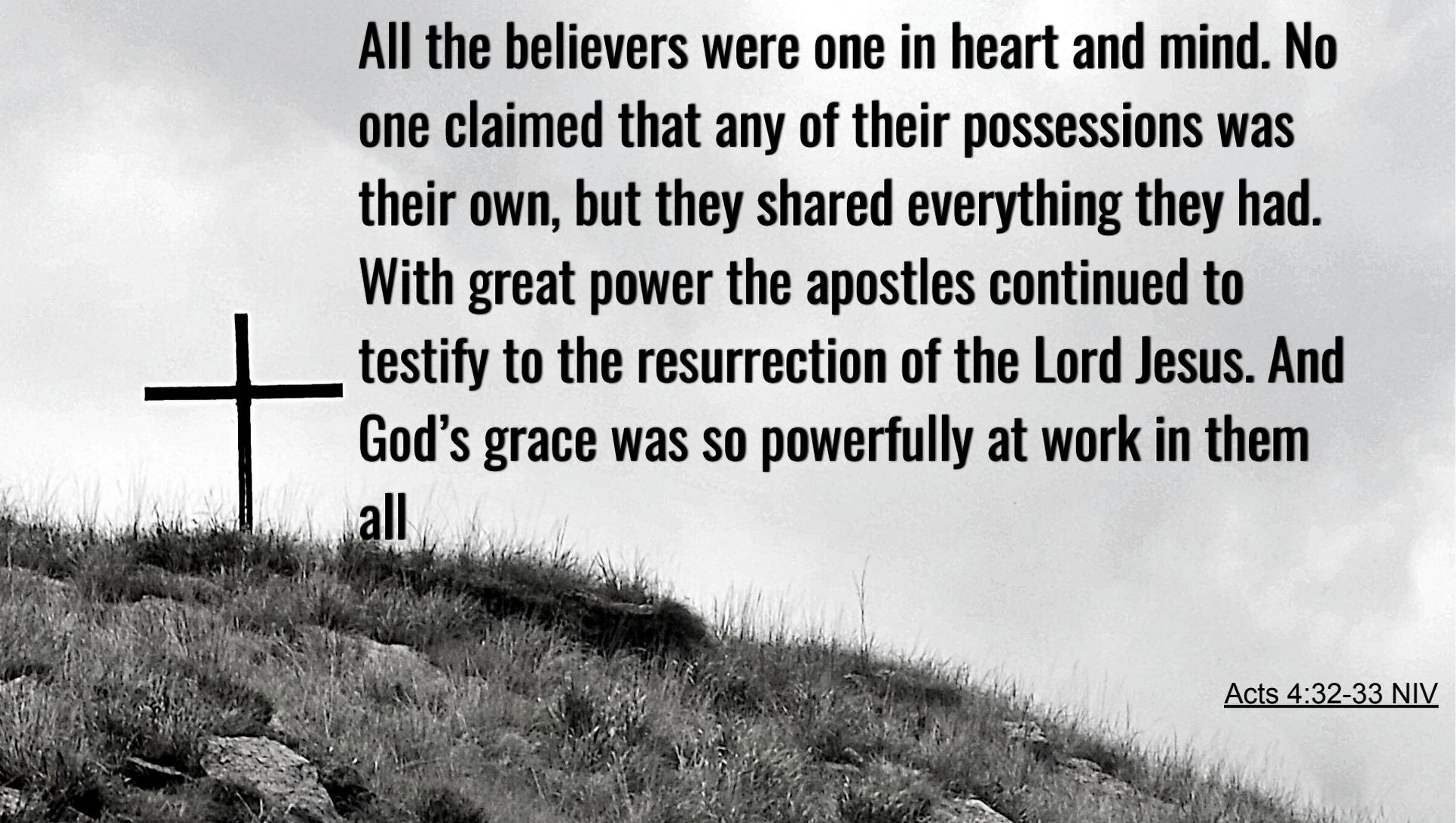
Born

ACTS: 1-12

Main Point

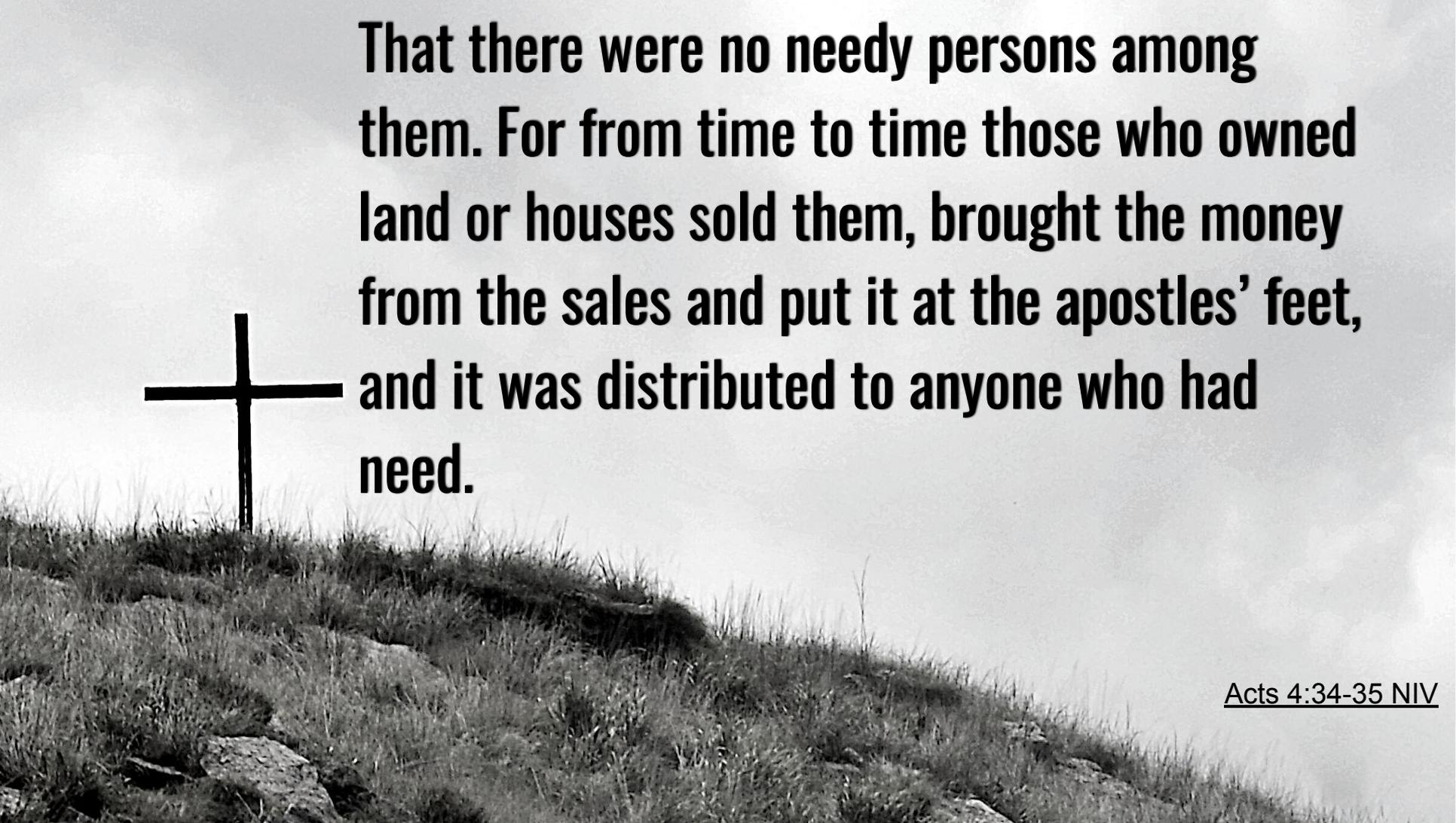
**Genuine Christian community takes genuine
Christians**



A black cross stands on a grassy hillside. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all

Acts 4:32-33 NIV

A black cross stands on a grassy hillside. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

That there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

Acts 4:34-35 NIV

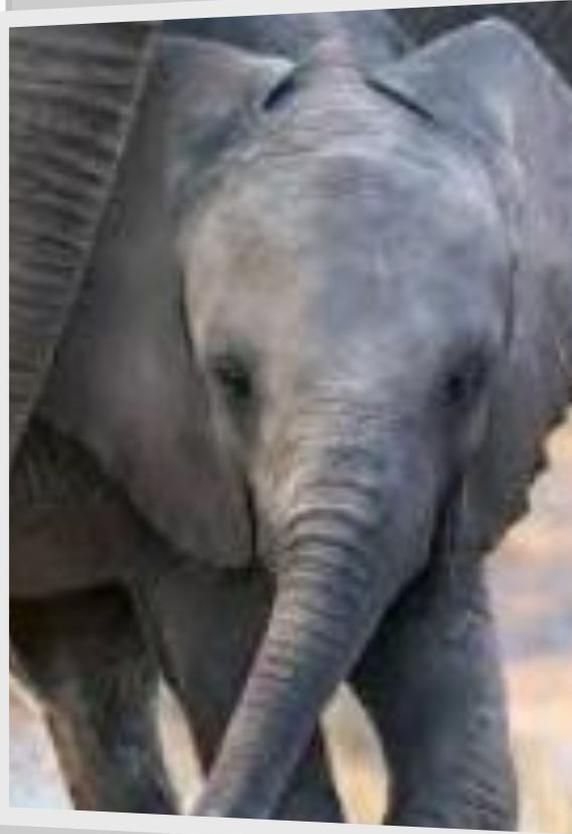
Chrisitan Community - One Heart One Mind

- ❑ Pattern of life is emerging
- ❑ Helping those in need
- ❑ God's grace is shown through His church





Elephants



One Heart

One Mind

Chrisitan Community - One Heart One Mind

- ❑ Have our hearts in the same place
- ❑ Serve God by serving others
- ❑ Find the needs in your circle of influence



Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means “son of encouragement”), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet.



Acts 4:36-37 NIV

Genuineness - Right Heart, Right Mind

- ❑ Barnabas as the example
- ❑ Sells property and gives proceeds to the apostles
- ❑ Genuinely wants to help those in need



Genuineness - Right Heart, Right Mind

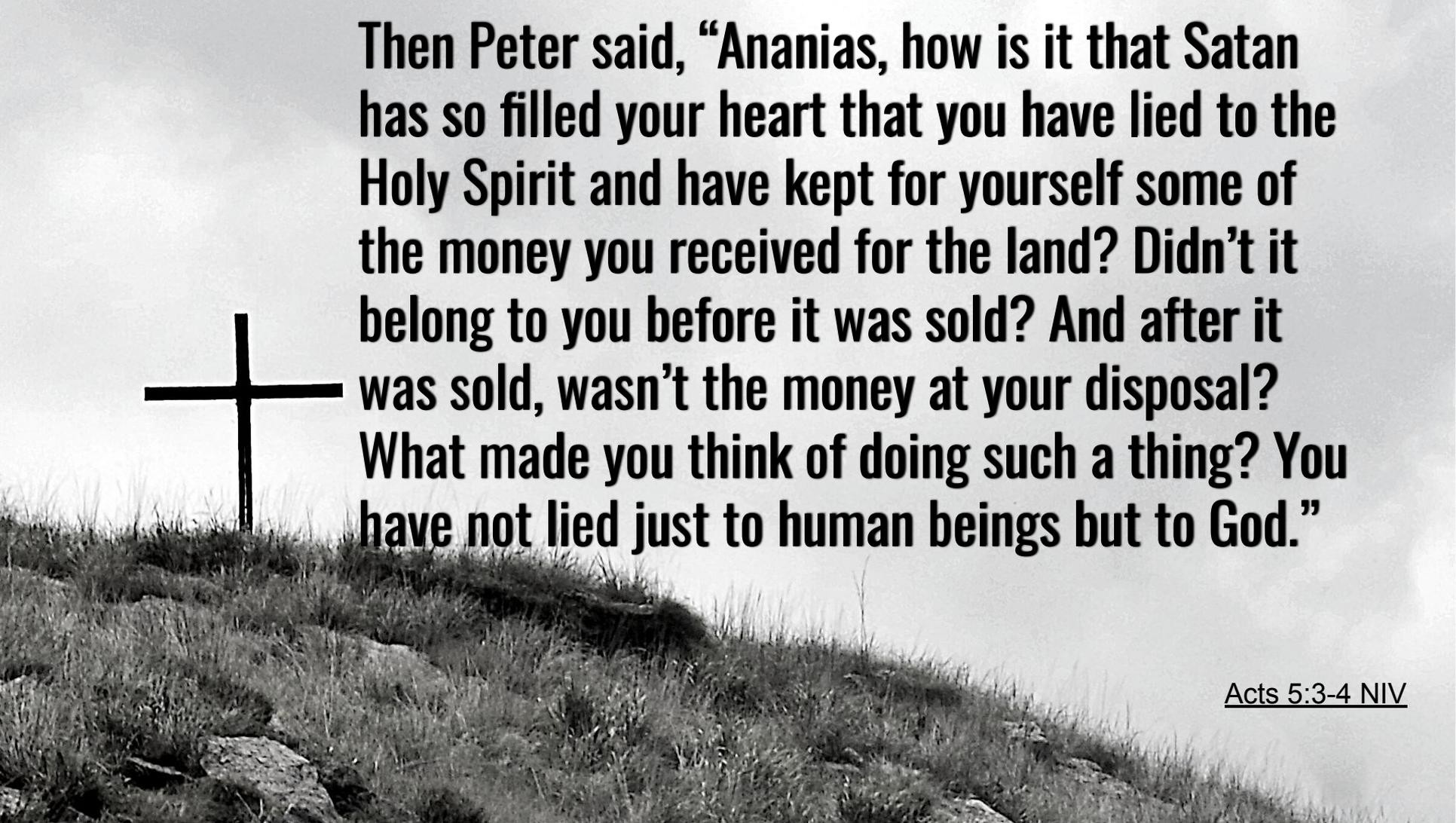
- ❑ “Truly what something is said to be”
- ❑ Do things for the right reason
- ❑ Be what you claim to be



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



Acts 5:1-2 NIV



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? 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.”

Acts 5:3-4 NIV

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



Acts 5:5-6 NIV

About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked her, “Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?” “Yes,” she said, “that is the price.”



Acts 5:7-8 NIV

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.”



Acts 5:9 NIV

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



Acts 5:10-11 NIV

Dishonesty - Hard Heart Hard Mind

- ❑ Property sold but some proceeds held back
- ❑ The issue is the lie
- ❑ Another example of the Holy Spirit vs Satan



Dishonesty - Hard Heart Hard Mind

- ❑ Lying shows lack of trust in God
- ❑ Lack of trust leads to fear
- ❑ We fear how we look to others
- ❑ We fear being uncomfortable



Closing

- ❑ Early church set up to be a genuine community
- ❑ Be who we claim to be
- ❑ Keep our trust in God

