

Five Traps to Avoid That Ruin Our Witness

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Acts 5:12-42

Trap 1: Believing that _____ is a private matter that only impacts _____

A Void of God's _____

No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. Acts 5:13-14 (NIV)

Trap 2: _____ why our “Christian” life isn’t any _____ than an unbeliever’s life

A Void of God's _____

...People brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter’s shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed. Acts 5:15-16 (NIV)

Trap 3: Expecting the Christian Life to be _____ and _____

A Void of _____

Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. Acts 5:17-18 (NIV)

They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Acts 5:40-41 (NIV)

If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they keep my word, they will also keep yours. John 15:19–20

Trap 4: Viewing _____ as a _____ from God to stop

A Void of _____

Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! Acts 5:29 (NIV)

Trap 5: _____ what you can see is all that’s _____

A Void of God's _____

Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.” Acts 5:38-39 (NIV)