

IT'S SERIOUS BUSINESS

SCRIPTURE:

And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it (Acts 5: 5).

MATERIALS LIST:

(1) Can of Wasp Spray

MAIN MESSAGE:

We must remember the seriousness of sin and the fact that God hates sin.

SONG: "I Believe In The One They Call Jesus"

LESSON:

It was just past high-noon and the stage was set. The evil villains had terrorized the people for far too long. However, change was coming because the guy in the white hat rode into town armed with determination and a weapon that had immediate stopping power. As the heat of the noon sun showered down upon the scene, the fireworks began. First the evil villains swooped, turning this way and that, as the man in the white hat unleashed a stream of poisonous firepower upon their intricately-designed hideout spot. Like *Twinkies* at a lunch room table full of children, those evil villains disappeared in the blink of an eye, falling to the ground, to trouble the people no longer.

Wow! This sounds much more interesting than me just telling you that I went outside of our church building the other day with a can of wasp spray and sprayed a few nest.

I really do not like wasps. If you've ever been stung by one, you might just be in the same camp as I am. When I think back to why God created some of the animals that He did, the wasp species is one that really baffles my mind. I'm sure they serve a really good purpose; however, could that same purpose not have been accomplished without giving this species of villains a stinger and poison? No doubt, God knows far more and better than I, so I will simply sit back and continue to run away from these flying enemies like a little girl.

Did you know that God hates sin? No, I mean He really hates sin. The Scriptures say, "There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:" (Proverbs 6: 16). Then it goes on to list what are commonly referred to as the Seven Deadly Sins. This hatred of sin is why Acts 5 is so relevant. Ananias and Sapphira weren't the only ones who had ever sinned; however, their lie to the Holy Spirit was enough to bring out God's wrath in this manner. The point was made very clear. God hates sin, and we need to remember that fact.

Just as I hate the evil villains- the wasp- and decided to strike them dead with the spray, God's hatred of sin, while not in the same, immediate manner as with Ananias and Sapphira, will bring forth His wrath at the second coming of Jesus- see 2 Thessalonians 1. We must instill the seriousness of sin in the minds of our children. May it never become just another topic.

PRAYER: Please forgive us when we minimize the seriousness of sin.