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ANANIAS

(Acts 22:1 – 16)

INTRODUCTION

We often think of the bible people as “spiritual superstars;” not ordinary people.
Let’s take a look at Ananias, a man like you and me.
His story is also told in (Acts 9:1 – 19)

1. ANANIAS WAS A READY AND WILLING DISCIPLE

(Acts 9:10) “to him the Lord said in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Here I am, Lord”

That’s like us: Someone asks, “Will you help me?” and we say, “Sure, what is it?”
We generally display an attitude of being a willing helper.

2. ANANIAS WAS HESITANT

(Acts 9:13-14) “Then Ananias answered, Lord ... “

Ananias presents his objections: “You want me to do what?”
At first he is willing to respond, then he is hesitant when told the assignment.

That’s me: “Here I am, Lord. Oh, wait, I can’t (or won’t) do that and here’s why.”

We hear the job description of Christian living, and we begin to object and offer excuses.
Moses did that, too: (Exodus 3:4) “Here am I” Then he hears the assignment (v10),
and his list of excuses begin: (v11, v13, 4:1, 4:10)

3. ANANIAS TRUSTED AND OBEYED

God said to him twice: (v11) “Arise and go ... “ and (v15) “Go ... “

The Lord replied to Ananias’ objections (v15-16).
(v17) “And Ananias went his way and entered the house”

Hopefully, that’s me, too.

After all of our objections to disobey, God remains willing for us to obey.
Obedience is one of the things that makes this story glorious. Will you trust and obey?

4. ANANIAS’ TASK WAS BLESSED

(v18) “... and he arose and was baptized”

Like Ananias, I must trust and obey in teaching the gospel.

(1 Cor. 3:6) “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase”
Like Saul (later became the apostle Paul), if you are not a Christian, trust and obey.