

## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

*Pronounced "Soul"*

# I Got Him Figured Out

Read and meditate on the following scriptures:

**EXODUS 14:1-4 NLT** - (1) Then the LORD gave these instructions to Moses: (2) "Order the Israelites to turn back and camp by Pi-hahiroth between Migdol and the sea. Camp there along the shore, across from Baal-zephon. (3) Then Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are confused. They are trapped in the wilderness!' (4) And once again I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will chase after you. I have planned this in order to display my glory through Pharaoh and his whole army. After this the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD!" So the Israelites camped there as they were told.

**ACTS 5:1-11 NLT** - (1) But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. (2) He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest. (3) Then Peter said, "Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. (4) The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren't lying to us but to God!" (5) As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified. (6) Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him. (7) About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. (8) Peter asked her, "Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?" "Yes," she replied, "that was the price." (9) And Peter said, "How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too." (10) Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. (11) Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

**ACTS 12:20-24 NLT** - (20) Now Herod was very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. So they sent a delegation to make peace with him because their cities were dependent upon Herod's country for food. The delegates won the support of Blastus, Herod's personal assistant, (21) and an appointment with Herod was granted. When the day arrived, Herod put on his royal robes, sat on his throne, and made a speech to them. (22) The people gave him a great ovation, shouting, "It's the voice of a god, not of a man!" (23) Instantly, an angel of the Lord struck Herod with a sickness, because he accepted the people's worship instead of giving the glory to God. So he was consumed with worms and died. (24) Meanwhile, the word of God continued to spread, and there were many new believers.

I often wonder to myself, how we (just being people) can try to out think a powerful God. How can we possibly think we have Him figured out? He tells us our ways are not His ways. What makes us believe we can abuse or manipulate His people and handle His church any kind of way? How can we be so ungrateful towards Him? Why do we attempt to steal His glory? Why are we wearing mask as if He can't see through or under it? How can we continue to sin as if His grace approves of it and claim repentance, only to perform the same sin again through planning? Do we really have Him figured out? Somebody thought they did in each story, now go back and review the consequences of each.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

PSALM 80

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Fewer marriages would fail if those who said "I Do", did.

