

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## Luke 12:1-12

**Ice Breaker:** What's is a story that you've heard this week that's encouraged you?

**Ice Breaker:** What's a story of Christian suffering that's given you encouragement to endure your suffering (past or future)?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Luke 12:1-12:** What is the setting of this passage? Who is Jesus' audience? What would you say the main topic is of these verses?
2. In Jesus' long teaching, he begins speaking about the Pharisees. What's his warning against them? What sin/vice is Jesus pointing out? Why might the Pharisees be particularly prone to this sin?
3. How might this warning to his disciples apply to us? What ways does hypocrisy creep into our lives? What areas of your life are you more likely to compromise Jesus' teachings in order to gain approval of man? What situations tempt you the most to do this?
4. Why does Jesus say that hypocrisy is ultimately foolish and useless? How should that change our perspective when we're tempted to shy way from Jesus' call to holy and righteous living?
5. Why do we fear those who can kill or harm our bodies? What instinct is behind this and is that a good, bad, or neutral instinct? Would different situations change your answer?
6. What does Jesus say is more fearful than physical harm? How often do you mis-prioritize the physical over the spiritual? What might that reveal about the priorities in our lives?
7. How does Jesus' teaching on the sparrows and the number of hairs on our head "fit" with his warning in v.4-5? In other words, how does God's care for us shape our fear of him?
8. What is Jesus' warning in verse 8-10? What would it have meant for Jesus' disciples to "acknowledge" Jesus in their day? What would have been at stake?
9. How might this be applied in our day and how should this **not** be applied (e.i. What's consider public? Does a Facebook post count? Situations at work? Conversations with family members?)
10. What is the powerful promise that Jesus gives us at the end of this passage? Do we believe and trust that Jesus will do this? Or do we shy back from conversations because we do not believe that the Holy Spirit will help us? Why?