Whom Shall You Fear?

Luke 12:1-12

Key Verse 12:5

*"But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him."*

1. When a large crowd gathered, what does Jesus warn his disciples about (1)? What is hypocrisy and why does Jesus warn against it? Why is it impossible to cover up hypocrisy (2-3)? What are some ways you are tempted to hide parts of our lives from others or from God?

2. In verses 4–5, Jesus contrasts two kinds of fear. Who do you find yourself most afraid of disappointing? How does that fear shape the way you act? Whom should we fear and why? What does “fearing the Lord” mean to you personally?

3. How did Jesus use sparrows and hair-counting to show His disciples their value to God (6-7)? What does this tell us about the kind of fear Jesus encourages—reverent, not anxious? How might knowing that God values you so deeply—even down to the number of hairs on your head—give you courage and help you live without fear?

4. What does it mean to acknowledge Jesus publicly and how might that look in everyday life today? (8) What fears or pressures might keep us from openly identifying as followers of Jesus in our culture? What is the consequence of disowning Jesus (9)? What’s the difference between speaking against Him and blaspheming the Holy Spirit? (10; Mark 3:28-30)?

5. How does Jesus encourage his disciples to respond when facing persecution? (11)? How does God equip those He sends (12)? How does this encourage you when you feel unsure about sharing your faith?