

Luke 11:35-12:12 Lessons in Courage (The big pretend game)

Icebreaker

Have you come across a case of mistaken identity, or identity theft, or have you had to prove your own identity to somebody (like the Police or a Bank)?

In the case of the former, what was it like to discover things were not what you thought they were?

Read Luke 11:35 -12:12

- 1 What do you think v 35 means?
- 2 How much of your faith is real, or is it in some sense the acting of a part?
- 3 Why was Jesus so hard on the Pharisees? (v 39)
- 4 Discuss the merits of confession.

Look at Luke 22: 54-62

- 5 Are there circumstances when you would not admit to being a follower of Jesus?
Would you, like Peter, prefer to keep it secret?

On Sunday, John quoted the report that the Oxford Union had banned the Christian Union at the University from having a stand at the recent Freshers Fair on the grounds that it would be alienating for students of other religions and might even cause potential harm to new students.

- 6 Is it becoming politically correct to keep quiet about Jesus?
- 7 Is it morally correct to keep quiet about Jesus? (See 2 Timothy 1:7-8)
- 8 Do you think that Moslems and Hindus would appreciate the kindness and love of a Christian?
- 9 How does Jesus stiffen the resolve of his followers?
(See Luke 12:4,5, 12:8, 12:11,12)
- 10 Look again at v 35 and turn it into a prayer.

We pray that your Holy Spirit will help us not to be part of the pretend game, but to be faithful, trusting and confident followers of Jesus.