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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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Prayer Requests:

**Group Discussion:** Do you struggle with hypocrisy by: 1. Appearing happy on the outside even when you're feeling down on the inside, 2. Feeling encouraged and joyful on the inside and not letting others see it on the outside, 3. Being helpful on the outside while resenting the intrusion on the inside, 4. Telling someone you love them while feeling ambivalent on the inside.

**Read out loud: Luke 12:1-12,**

To overcome hypocrisy (vs. 1) live in:

#1. The remembrance of judgment day. In vss. 2-3, Jesus used 4 verbs: revealed, known, heard, proclaimed. He wants to make sure that the multitudes understand that you can't hide from God. He knows your thoughts, attitudes, motivations and actions...all of them! When you think of the day when you'll finally stand before God to meet Him alone for the first time, how do you picture it?

#2. The awe of God's authority, vss. 4-5, Yes, I tell you, fear Him! When Jesus uses the word fear He uses it in the Old Testament sense of awe, respect and honor. When you meet someone with great authority you can be relieved that finally someone is here who can fix my problem or fearful that someone is here to punish me for my poor behavior. Which one do you think you'll experience when you meet God face to face?

#3. The loyalty of God's love, vss. 6-9, You are more valuable.... God knows every bird in the sky and every hair on your head and Jesus says, "not one will be forgotten." God's loyal love is so deeply committed to you that he knows every need and detail of your life. When you go through personal difficulty or tragedy why is it so difficult for us to trust in God's love for us? Do you ever question God or His love when you're experiencing stress? Can you believe in God's loyal love and yet experience grief and depression?

#4. The power of the Holy Spirit, vss. 10-12, The Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say. The context of Jesus statement is to those who have obviously heard His spoken word. Therefore, if you've absorbed Jesus words then the Holy Spirit will bring to your memory just exactly the right thing to say. If you were faced with being put on trial for your faith, what would you say about your relationship with Jesus? Finish this sentence, "I believe in Jesus because He changed me from \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_."

Family Time: Read Luke 12:6-7. Ask your kids how many birds there are in the world. Look up on-line how many species of birds there in the world and how many birds there are. Ask your kids how many hairs are on their heads and try to count them on someone's head. Talk about why Jesus would use such silly statements and why would He would use an example that no one would be able to accomplish (birds & hairs). Explain to them that God wants them to know He knows every detail of their lives. Ask them for one detail about their lives that you may not know.