

# Get Real

(Matthew 22:34-40)

- Introduction:
1. This lesson is intended to emphasize the need for authentic Christianity.
  2. Many people play at being a Christian, but it's not genuine.

## I. How Would You Identify Yourself?

- A. If you were asked "who are you?" how would you respond?
- B. If someone else were to try to identify who you are, how would they respond?
- C. (Matthew 5:13-16; Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21).
- F. Let's quit playing and be authentic and be disciples of Jesus.

## II. Don't Deceive Yourself

- A. It's easy to pretend to be a Christian, especially those of us who have been raised up going to church.
  1. We sometimes equate attendance with faithfulness.
  2. We sometimes equate activity with spirituality.
- B. We must be careful that we don't deceive ourselves by our own pretense.
- C. A disciple is one who loves God with all his heart (Matthew 22:34-40).
- D. Don't confuse walking in the same direction as Christ with following Him.

## III. Being Authentic Is Liberating

- A. Being two different people is difficult to manage.
- B. Deciding to be a disciple frees you of worrying about what you say or how you act around certain circles of people.
- C. And God knows the difference (2 Chronicles 25:2; 1 Chronicles 28:9).

## IV. Being A Christian Isn't What We Do, But Who We Are

- A. This will affect the way we live and the way we interact with others.
- B. Our responsibilities won't be tasks to perform, but rather just a way of life.

- Conclusion:
1. If you're pretending to be a disciple of Jesus, give up the pretense.
  2. God knows the difference, and usually so does everyone else.
  3. Let's be authentic so that we can lead people to Christ by our example, and not turn them away by our hypocrisy.