



SECRETS

By Ian Menzies

A friend was undertaking a Financial Counselling course and needed to urgently film (via Zoom) a scenario involving a 'first meeting' with a new client. Would I be able to role-play the client's part? "Of course." My instructions were dutifully provided, our computer link was established and proceedings commenced immediately. I was to be in serious financial trouble with large debts, be suitably nervous and embarrassed, and to emphasise that I didn't want my family or friends to discover my secret. All was going quite well until my wife unexpectedly emerged from her own meeting in another room to overhear some of these 'confessions', and just at the point where I was explaining that

I didn't want her to know about my secret debts. Being filmed, I had no choice but to soldier on without any explanation. Eyebrows rose! Fortunately, there was much hilarity later when what was really happening could be explained, but for those few moments... well, awkward doesn't quite do it justice. So it was that I was confronted with a glimpse of the trauma that many face when they keep a significant secret and the shock and horror for all if it is discovered accidentally. How difficult life for some can truly be. We laughed, but the reality for others isn't funny at all. How radical is God's call to put aside such earthly failings. How liberating if we obey.

Reflection:

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices. Colossians 3:9

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