

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

SERVANTHOOD & SACRIFICE IN A SELFIE WORLD

QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER: What was something you thought would be easy until you tried it?

1. In the context of the latter part of Mark 11 and into Mark 12, open hostility and conflict broke out between Jesus and the Jewish religious authorities. What does this signify for those who desire to live godly lives today [cf. Matthew 5:11-12; John 15:18-21; and 2 Timothy 3:10-13]?
2. What does the writer's comment that some of the Pharisees and Herodians were sent to trap Jesus in His words reveal about the hearts of these religious leaders [Mark 12:13]? Consider also Psalm 34:12-16; Romans 1:28-32; and 1 Peter 2:1.
3. Few words are more deceitful than those recorded in Mark 12:14. What was accurate in the adversaries' assessment of Jesus? What was inaccurate [cf. Proverbs 26:22-28; Acts 13:4-12; and 2 Corinthians 11:12-15]?
4. Knowing the Lord disapproves of hypocrisy [Mark 12:15], what would be appropriate replacement virtues to pursue [cf. Ephesians 6:5-8; 1 Timothy 1:5; and 1 Peter 1:22-25]?
5. What do you learn about the character of God from the way Jesus dealt with these adversaries who were putting Him to the test [Mark 12:15]? Examine also Exodus 17:1-7; Matthew 4:7; and 1 Corinthians 10:6-13.
6. In your thinking, what things belong to God, and what things belong to Caesar (i.e. the civil government) [Mark 12:17]? How did you determine your answer [cf. Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 13:1-7; and 1 Peter 2:13-17]?
7. What did you find helpful or challenging about this Sunday's message?

"Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people." (Paul of Tarsus)