

February 25, 2024

SHOW ME THE MONEY

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 12:13-17



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



13 Then they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him in order to trap Him in a statement. 14 They came and said to Him, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth. Is it lawful to pay a poll tax to Caesar, or not? 15 Shall we pay or shall we not pay?" But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why are you testing Me? Bring Me a denarius to look at." 16 They brought one. And He said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" And they said to Him, "Caesar's." 17 And Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were amazed at Him.



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REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?

- When was the first time you learned about money and/or taxes, and what was your reaction?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

GROW IN THE WORD

- 01. The religious leaders sent Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus in an attempt to trap him with a question about taxes. They flattered Jesus, affirming his truthfulness in teaching the way of God. Then, they asked him whether or not it was lawful to pay taxes to Rome (v. 13-15a).**
 - How would you describe the religious leaders, the Pharisees, and the Herodians in this story? Reflect on their motives, their method, and their goal. See also Mark 3:6; 12:12.

GROW IN THE WORD

- What thoughts and feelings arise as you reflect on what the religious leaders were trying to do?

- In what ways have you received or acted out the type of hypocrisy, manipulation, and deceit offered up by the religious leaders? Can you relate to either them or Jesus?

02. Jesus knew precisely what the Pharisees and Herodians were trying to do, and responded by first asking them to examine their motives. Then, he called out for a Roman coin, identified its likeness and inscription, and instructed them to render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's (v. 15b-17).

- What do you think the religious leaders wanted Jesus to say in response to their question about taxes? See Luke 23:1-2.

GROW IN THE WORD

- What do you learn about civic duty and loyalty to God from this passage? See also Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17; Acts 5:28-32.

- In what ways can you apply Jesus' instruction in verse 17, and/or how can you seek to imitate his response to the Pharisees and Herodians?

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD

Africa | January - March 2024

We are learning about and praying for our partners in Africa this quarter and would love to have you join us! You can download our digital guide or pick up a copy in the Foyer on Sundays. This is a great way to be a part of reaching the world with the gospel!

STORY OF SCRIPTURE

May 17 - 18 | \$79 Per Person | Fellowship Hall

At the Story of Scripture event you'll learn about the threads that weave all of Scripture together, find renewed confidence that God knows what He's doing, and most of all, see how you can trust Him in the chaos of life. Learn more and register online or in our mobile app.

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pray to begin your group time. Remind the group why you are meeting: to connect in meaningful relationships, to grow spiritually, and to engage in the life and work of the church together. Reflect on the values you want to share as a group (i.e. confidentiality, authenticity, grace).

CONNECT (30-40 MIN)

You can use these suggestions to foster connection and build community in your group. You can break your group into smaller parts if needed, pick a question to discuss, and let each member get to know one another.

- Spend a few minutes catching up with one another. Share highs and lows since you last met.
- Pick one or both questions from the Reflect/Connect section of the passage guide and give each person a chance to respond.

GROW (30-40 MIN)

Gather back as a big group if you broke up earlier and have one person pray over your time discussing God's word. As you discuss, don't worry if there are questions left unanswered or unresolved. Reach out to ministry leaders or pastors for any needed clarification.

- Select 2-3 questions from each section. Pick questions that stand out to you, or that you believe would be most helpful for your group. Save the last question of the passage guide for the end.
- Read any cross-references together and discuss. Leave space for members to confess and repent of any sin revealed.

ENGAGE (30-40 MIN)

Reflect on the biblical truth God revealed to you this week and discuss a plan of action to apply what you have learned. Gather in smaller groups of 2-4 again. Discuss your plan of action and pray for one another.

- Spend time reflecting on the last question of the passage guide. Pray and invite God to lead as you discuss application together.
- Close the group time by sharing prayer requests and praying for one another.