

Home Group Questions on Mark 12:13-27

Feel free to select the questions that will work best with your group. Questions 2, 4 and 6-7 are probably most essential to the main points of the passage though.

- 1) For the curious and super keen: divide your group three ways if possible and give them one passage each to look up from Deuteronomy 18:14-22, Isaiah 42:1-5 (especially v.5) and Malachi 3.1-5. How do we see Jesus fulfilling these passages in Mark 11-12?
- 2) How does Mark demonstrate that Jesus is Israel's (and our) true teacher in 11:13-27? What authority does Jesus' word carry?
- 3) Jesus doesn't necessarily answer his opponent's questions on their terms or in the ways they expected. He challenges their assumptions. What can we learn from his example about answering wisely when people come to us with questions about Christianity?
- 4) Why does Jesus' answer to the Herodians and Pharisees cut both ways? How does it challenge both those who are too eager to disobey the state and those who are too willing to conform to its will?
 - Where do you particularly feel that challenge hitting home at the moment?
- 5) How does Jesus' example in vv.18-27 teach us to be more careful and thoughtful in the way we read and handle Scripture?
- 6) What reasons does Jesus give us to be more *excited* in our hope of the resurrection in vv.24-27? E.g. how might it be better than we expect?
- 7) What reasons does he give us to be more *confident* in this hope? E.g. why can we be certain it will happen?
- 8) How does the whole passage (vv.13-27) challenge us to live *now*, in light of the resurrection hope?