

Sermon Notes

"Render to Caesar and to God"

Mark 12:13-17

October 18, 2026

6. **For Thought and Discussion:** If we can recognize a coin that belongs to Caesar by the fact that it bears his image, how can we recognize what belongs to God? How is this relevant to Jesus' response in 12:17?

7. **For Further Study:** Jesus' response to the question about paying taxes to Caesar presupposes a particular view of the relationship between the Christian and the State. Examine New Testament teachings concerning the State in Acts 5:29; Romans 13:1-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-4; and 1 Peter 2:13-17.

8. What is one thing or area of your life that you have withheld from the Lord (such as an ability, a possession, or block of time) but want to give back to him?

9. Why do you think the religious leaders were so amazed at Jesus (12:17)? Do you sense that this translated into saving faith? What is the difference?

Let's Pray:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 10-18-2026

Questions adapted from James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, p. 95; Lyman Coleman, et.al., eds., Serendipity New Testament for Groups, Serendipity House, Littleton, CO, 1986, p. 114; James Hoover, Mark: Follow Me, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 1999, pp. 61-62; Ted Dorman, Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Mark, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1995, pp. 118-119; Jason Meyer, Mark For You, The Good Book Company, India, 2022, p. 185.

Getting Started:

1. In ten words or less, how do you feel about taxes?

Digging Deeper:

Read Mark 12:13-17.

2. Who made a special trip to see Jesus? Why? What were they trying to accomplish (12:13)?
3. Why was this trap particularly dangerous? What outcome were Jesus' opponents expecting?
4. In what way were the religious leaders guilty of hypocrisy (12:14-15)?
5. What did Jesus mean when He said, 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's (12:17)?