## **Reclaiming Intellectualism**

Reclaiming [Your] Faith
Discussion Questions

- Have you ever personally experienced someone thinking that to be a Christian is to check your brain at the door?
  - o Why do you think people might view Christians as anti-intellectual?
  - Have you had an experience in church where pursuing God with your mind was discouraged?
- What has contributed to a division between knowledge & reason and faith & feelings?
  - What are some examples of Christians who have contributed significantly to science, philosophy, art, business, charity, etc.?
- Read Matthew 22:34-35
  - How does this passage demonstrate that Jesus was intellectually sophisticated?
  - o Why don't people typically think of Jesus in that way?
- Read Matthew 22:36-39
  - How does the "great commandment" push back on the idea of a division between knowledge & reason and faith & feelings?
  - o What does it mean to love God with our minds?
- Read 1 John 4:10
  - o Why does loving God begin with God loving us?
  - o How has God shown us his love?
- How have you been challenged to...
  - o Know who you believe in?
  - o Know what you believe?
  - o Know why you believe?
- What resources do you plan to take advantage of to grow in these areas?
  - o What are your reservations?
- Which of the gospel identities (citizen, family, missionary) does this message highlight? How can we encourage each other to love God with our whole selves?