



Title: MONEY MATTERS—*The Issue of
Ownership*

Main Scripture: Mark 12:13-17

Owners

(Ps 24:1, Job 41:11, Deut 10:14)

Stewards

Money Matters: *The Issue of Ownership*

Small Group Sermon Study | April 22 & 23, 2023

Prayer: *Father, in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit, we invite You to come now to speak to us, teach us, and transform us. As we read, discuss and reflect on Your Word we seek a deeper knowledge of You, and to wholly trust You more. Amen.*

Icebreaker: Share about something that you enjoyed collecting (maybe as a kid), and what that meant to you.

Read Mark 12:13-17, Psalm 24:1, and Job 41:11 together. From these Scriptures and notes from the sermon, discuss the following:

- What do these Scriptures and sermon notes tell us about ownership (i.e. God's ownership and our "ownership")?
- "Jesus affirmed both paying assigned taxes and giving back to the Lord." How does our attitude towards either of these reflect our attitude towards the resources God has given us to steward?
- Often, we are plagued by a desire to be in control through self-protection, possessiveness and even greed. How can our small group challenge each other to work against these attitudes which hinder our trust in God, and, as a consequence, our relationship with Him?

Personal Reflection:

- Are there five things at home, right now, that you haven't touched or used in a long time and could generously pass on to your community around you?
- Are there five things in your possession right now that you might struggle to think of in terms of being God's, or that you would have difficulty sharing with someone else?
- If you tune your heart to think "His, His, His" about all you have, then share how this affects your life as you ask these questions:
 - How much do I need to live on?
 - If I live only off what I need, what would God call me to do with the rest?

Prayer: *Father, we know "the earth in its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it" are Yours. We understand that You call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, and caretakers of all You have entrusted to us. Help us to use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. In Jesus' name, amen.*