

Life Group Questions - Mark 12: *Authentic Worship*

UNDERSTANDING THE PASSAGE

1. *Main Idea of the Passage:* Authentic Worship
2. *How the main idea is developed:* Through teaching and personal conflicts, Jesus shows us the difference between using God as a tool and bowing to God as Lord and Savior.
3. *Melodic Line:* Repent and Believe in the Good News that Jesus is the Suffering Servant King, the Glorious Savior.

Outline

1. Using God (vv. 1-34)
 - A. Rental Nightmare (vv. 1-12)
 - B. Taxes and Death (vv. 13-17)
 - C. Did God Really Say? (vv. 18-27)
 - D. What's the Most Important Law in the Bible? (vv. 28-34)

*Sum: using God = using Scripture and theology for self-gain, to self-justify, to self-protect, to fortify human power. The Bible is twisted, attacked, questioned, redefined, and in general used as a device, rather than submitted to as Gods' holy and loving Word.

2. Authentic Worship (vv. 35-44)
 - A. Authentic Bible Study (vv. 35-37)
 - B. Authentic Problem (vv. 38-40)
 - C. Authentic Worship (vv. 41-44)

*Sum: Jesus is everything.

Gospel Centrality

1. Mark 12:10-11 – “Have you not read this Scripture: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Warming Up

1. What did you like about this passage?
2. What did you find difficult about this passage?

Letting the Text Shape our Framework

1. What does this passage teach about God?
2. What does this passage teach about people?
3. How does this passage speak to an unbeliever?

Traveling Through the Cross

1. How does the gospel speak to how we are to live out this passage? What can we learn from the tenants vs. the Beloved Son in the *Parable of the Tenants*?

Applying This Passage to our Lives

1. How can we grow both individually and as a group into authentic worship? Consider the following questions and perhaps write down the answers this week upon reflection and prayer:
 1. What is my greatest nightmare?
 2. What do I worry about the most?
 3. What do I rely on to comfort myself with when things go badly or become difficult?
 4. What makes me feel the most self-worth?
 5. What am I the proudest of?
 6. What do I really want and expect out of life?
 7. What would really make me happy?