

Life of Christ SERIES ♦ LESSON #52A – The Greatest Commandment
Mark 12:13-17, 28-40

TO HELP US STUDY

1. How did the Herodians and Pharisees try to catch Jesus in his words? _____

2. How could either answer be used against Jesus? _____

3. What was on a denarius? _____
4. Jesus said to them, "Give to _____ what is _____ and give to _____ what is _____."
5. Which of the commandments are most important? _____
What's the second? _____
6. Many people believed in Jesus, even leaders, but did not confess their faith - why? _____
7. These are more important than all the _____ and _____.
8. What passage from Psalms did Jesus use to teach about the relationship between David and the Christ?

9. Why would the teachers of the law be punished most severely? _____

10. How did the widow give more to the temple treasury than the rich people? _____

(FBS Lesson #52 looks more in depth at Question 10)

TO HELP US REMEMBER: Mark 12:17 "Then Jesus said to them, 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'"

TEEN THOUGHT: A lot of scripture speaks about money and how we should give; the scripture is not hard to understand, but hard to get right. The most important part of giving is the heart of the giver. Many hearts are tempted by the love of many, and many hearts are tempted to be self-righteous when they give. But like the Parable of the Talents, all we have belongs to our master, and our job is to use it for his glory. We cannot love both God and money. Read the scriptures below to see how you can put money in its place.

TIPS FOR TEACHING

Much of the class can be about how we use/abuse money, but another study could be following how Jesus outwitted the various Jewish sects. My favorite learning from this passage: the inscription on the denarius declared that the current Caesar (Tiberius) was "son of the divine Augustus". Not only did Jesus dodge the trap meant to accuse him of treason to Rome or treason to the Jewish people, but his statement also declared that Caesar was not God. So the real Son of God was not on the denarius, but the one they showed it to. Jesus also used Psalm 110 to stump them with the apparent Paradox of how the Christ could be both David's descendant and Lord – another hint that Jesus was the human descendant of David and heir to his throne, but also David's creator, the king of kings, and high priest forever.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE: 2 Sam 24:24; Pr 30:8; Mal 3:8-12; Mt 7:19-33; 25:14-30; Lk 11:11-13, 16:1-15; 21:1-4; Acts 4:32-5:4; 20:35; 1 Tim 6:6-11; 1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor 8-9; Phil 4:10-19; Heb 13:5, 15-16