



Passing The Buck

Mark 12:13-17

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EASY WARM-UP QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever felt like not paying your taxes? Why or why not?
2. Has there ever been a time when you had difficulty respecting the authority of the government? Care to share details with the group?

THE TRAP 12:13,14

1. These days, whom do the Pharisees remind you of?
2. These days, whom do the Herodians remind you of? (No fair using the same answer as for #1)
3. Why was the question they asked Jesus so volatile?
4. These days, are there ways in which this question gets asked of us?
5. Without quoting Jesus, how would you answer the question?

THE TEACHING 12:15-17a

1. What does it mean to be created in the “image” of God? (cf. Genesis 1:26,27)
2. These days, what does it mean for you to know that you are created in the image of God?
3. What does God mean by, “*I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.*” (cf. Jeremiah 31:31-34)
4. How (or when) does God put His law within us and write it on our hearts?
5. These days, what does it mean for you to know that God has inscribed His law on your heart?
6. The kingdoms of this world and the kingdom of God coexist and may even cooperate. But, they are not coequal. These days, what does it mean for you to know this truth?
7. Jesus is not teaching us to choose between one or the other but to consider which kingdom has the greater authority over our lives and to live accordingly. These days, what does Jesus’ teaching look like in your life?

PROCESSING ALL THAT... 12:17b

1. What does this account help you to understand about Jesus?
2. What difference can this (your answer to #1) make in how you do life?
3. What does this account help you to understand about the kingdom of God?
4. What difference can this make (answer to #3) in how you do life?