

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:13-34

Have your parents ever asked you a question that they already know the answer to? What was it?

Have you ever been asked a difficult question that has no correct answers? What was it?

In Mark 12, some men try to “trap” Jesus 3 different times with very difficult questions. The final question and answer is one of the most important teachings we have recorded from Jesus.

MARK 12:13-17 - TAXES

Why were the Pharisees and Herodians trying to trap Jesus in his talk? How would that benefit them?

What question do they bring to Jesus? What problems could arise if he answers yes or no?

How can we apply Jesus’s answer to our own obedience to government today?

MARK 12:18-27 – RESURRECTION

(You will need to summarize the Saducees’ question for the students)

Why do you think the Saducees asked this question? Why is the answer a big deal?

What does Jesus’s answer tell us about marriage in Heaven?

Does this change your view of Heaven? If so, why?

What does Jesus mean in verse 27 when he says, “He is not God of the dead, but of the living”?

MARK 12:28-34 – THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

What commandment(s) does Jesus say is the greatest of all time? What makes this one the greatest?

Jesus also gives a second commandment. How does this one relate to the first?

What does it look like to practically love God and love others?

Which of these is harder? Why?

After hearing the man’s answer, what does Jesus mean in verse 34?

APPLICATION

Take a minute and have everyone commit to one practical thing to do this week to love God and love others. Finish by letting the students pair up and pray for each other’s commitments.