

**What Give You the Right?**  
**Upside Down Kingdom: The Gospel According to Mark**  
August 24, 2025

Notes

**Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion**

**1. Read Mark 11:27-33.**

Who initiated the conversation in these verses? What was their concern?

Why do people seem to naturally resist and question authority? How do you typically respond to those in authority over you?

How did Jesus respond to the question? Why do you think He responded the way He did?

In what part of your life are you reluctant to submit to the authority of Jesus? Why is that and what do you need to do about it?

**2. Read Mark 12:1-12.**

Chapter 12 continues what began in the last verses of chapter 11. Same day, same place, same people. Who do the characters in Jesus' story represent and what is its meaning?

How did His listeners respond? How do you respond when someone tells you something you know is true but that you don't want to hear?

**3. Read Mark 12:13-17.**

What concern is Jesus questioned about in these verses? What does Jesus' response tell you about how we should respond to government?

As a follower of Jesus, what do you owe your country and what do you owe Christ?

**4. Read Mark 12:28-34.**

What answer does Jesus give to the question about the most important commandment?

Why do you think Jesus links two commandments together in His reply? Why are the two inseparable? Which commandment is harder for you to obey? How might you work on one aspect of that commandment this week?

**5. Read Mark 12: 35-44.**

For what reasons did Jesus condemn the religious leaders, and why did He commend the widow?

Do you give to God out of your surplus or do you give sacrificially? Is there anything you are withholding from God? What is it and why?