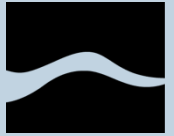


# SERMON NOTES

## TELL ME ABOUT HIS PERFECT WISDOM

### Mark 12:13-17



**BIG IDEA:** Jesus reveals his perfect wisdom by teaching that we owe proper submission to earthly authorities, but total allegiance to God.

# APPLICATION GUIDE

MAY 10, 2026

## DISCUSS

Describe a time when someone asked you a question that felt more like a trap than a sincere conversation. How did you respond?

## EXPLORE

Why is it significant that the Pharisees and Herodians joined together against Jesus? What does their alliance reveal about unbelief and opposition to Christ?

How did the religious leaders use flattery to manipulate Jesus? Why is flattery such a dangerous form of deception?

Why was the question about paying taxes such a powerful trap? How does Jesus' answer demonstrate both wisdom and authority?

What does Jesus mean when he says, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's"? How does the image on the coin connect to humanity bearing the image of God?

## APPLY

In what situations are you tempted to resist authority because you ultimately want to rule yourself instead of submitting to God?

Are there ways you are tempted to manage appearances spiritually rather than honestly surrendering your heart to Christ?

What area of your life are you most tempted to withhold from God right now—your plans, comfort, reputation, relationships, finances, or something else?

## COMMIT

This week, I will prayerfully surrender one specific area of my life to Christ's authority and ask him to help me trust and obey him wholeheartedly.