

The King's Road: Questions, Questions, Questions

Matthew 22:23–46 | Small Group Study Guide

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. The Sadducees' Question — Matthew 22:23–33

1. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection. Why do you think they used a hypothetical story about seven brothers to challenge Jesus?

2. According to Matthew 22:29, Jesus said they were wrong because they knew neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. How can someone know parts of the Bible yet misunderstand what it teaches?

3. How did Jesus use Scripture to answer their question about the resurrection? What does His answer teach us about God?

4. Have you ever encountered someone who seemed more interested in arguing about Christianity than genuinely understanding it? How can we respond with both truth and grace?

2. The Greatest Commandment — Matthew 22:34–40

1. Why did the Pharisees ask Jesus which commandment was the greatest? What were they hoping to accomplish?

2. Jesus says we are to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind. What does it look like to love God with our whole lives rather than simply participating in religious activities?

3. Why do you think Jesus connects loving God with loving our neighbors as ourselves?

4. How does loving our neighbors help demonstrate whether our love for God is genuine?

5. Which is more challenging for you right now: loving God wholeheartedly or loving others as yourself? Why?

3. Jesus' Question About the Messiah — Matthew 22:41–46

1. Jesus asks the Pharisees whose son the Christ is. They correctly answer that He is the Son of David. Why was that an important answer?

2. Jesus then points to Psalm 110:1, where David calls the Messiah "Lord." Why was this question difficult for the Pharisees to answer?

3. What does this exchange teach us about Jesus' identity and authority?

4. Why is it possible to know biblical facts and still fail to recognize the full significance of who Jesus is?

5. How should recognizing Jesus as both the promised Messiah and our Lord shape the way we live?

Application Questions

1. Knowing Scripture: Am I approaching the Bible with a genuine desire to understand and obey God, or am I sometimes more interested in defending what I already believe?
2. 2. Trusting God's power: Is there a biblical truth or promise I struggle to trust because I am looking at it only through my own understanding or circumstances?
3. 3. Loving God completely: What part of my heart, mind, priorities, or daily decisions needs to be more fully devoted to God?
4. 4. Loving my neighbor: Who is one person I find difficult to love, serve, or treat with patience? What would it look like to love that person as myself this week?
5. 5. Recognizing Jesus as Lord: Does my daily life reflect the truth that Jesus is not merely a teacher to learn from but the Lord to whom I owe my allegiance?
6. 6. Taking a next step: What is one specific action you can take this week to grow in your love for God or demonstrate Christlike love toward someone else?

Brief Prayer Time

Invite group members to pray around these four themes:

- Understanding Scripture: Ask God to help us understand His Word faithfully and approach it with humble, teachable hearts.

- Trusting His power: Pray for confidence in God's promises, including the hope of resurrection and eternal life.

- Loving God wholeheartedly: Ask God to deepen our love for Him in our thoughts, desires, decisions, and actions.

- Loving our neighbors: Pray for specific people who need our patience, forgiveness, compassion, or practical help.