

Message Notes | Navigating Culture

Part 4: Politics

Mark 12:13-17

→ the road ahead in 2024

#1 When navigating politics, informing the _____ is the most important _____.

→ the Pharisees and Herodians had a question for Jesus - **vs. 13-15**

→ Jesus' answer amazed them - **vs. 15-17**

#2 Give the _____ your _____.

→ _____

→ Romans 13:1, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Romans 13:6-7, Acts 5:29

#3 Give _____ your _____.

→ where is your trust? - **Psalms 146:3-4**

→ God shows his control throughout history

#4 Don't _____. God has a _____ for his _____.

→ a King without a denarius - **vs. 15, 2 Corinthians 8:9**

Group Questions | Navigating Culture

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Mark 12:13-17

1. Fear tends to be a big driver of political tension and emotion during the election season. Do you agree? Why or why not?
2. What's the difference between "fear" and "concern"? How does fear undermine your ability to follow Jesus?
3. **Read Mark 12:13-17.** The Pharisees and Herodians were political enemies. Why did they come together to ask Jesus this question?

Put Jesus' answer in your own words. How does his answer help to inform our view of politics today?
4. When it comes to government, we are to give them our respect. What does that mean practically speaking? (Share at least 3 examples.)

What does it NOT mean? (Share at least 3 examples.)
5. God used Egypt, Babylon, Persia, and the Roman Empire as instruments to carry out His will. Can you think of other Bible examples when God used surprising circumstances to accomplish His will?
6. What is God's ultimate plan?

Have you experienced people putting too much focus on the success of America? Explain.
7. Describe the Kingdom Jesus came to establish.
8. As you consider politics in 2024, how would you describe what a Christian's approach should look like?

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#1 When navigating politics, informing the heart is the most important part.

→ the Pharisees and Herodians had a question for Jesus -
vs. 13-15

→ Jesus' answer amazed them - **vs. 15-17**

#2 Give the government your respect.

→ Pray Pay Obey

→ Romans 13:1, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Romans 13:6-7, Acts 5:29

#3 Give God your heart.

→ where is your trust? - **Psalms 146:3-4**

→ God shows his control throughout history

#4 Don't fear. God has a plan for his people.

→ a King without a denarius - **vs. 15, 2 Corinthians 8:9**

Bible Reading for Today

Mark 12:13-17

¹³ Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. ¹⁴ They came to him and said, "Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not? ¹⁵ Should we pay or shouldn't we?"

But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. "Why are you trying to trap me?" he asked. "Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." ¹⁶ They brought the coin, and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

"Caesar's," they replied.

¹⁷ Then Jesus said to them, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."

And they were amazed at him.