

**Pledge Allegiance**  
**Mark 12:13-17**

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**NOTES**

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Suggested Questions for Individual  
Study or Group Discussion\*



- When does it seem right to pay taxes? What frustrates you about taxation where you live?
- Read *Mark 12:13-17*. Who are those who are sent to Jesus? What is significant about them and their relationship? What are they trying to accomplish together?
- How do these Jewish leaders try to trap Jesus? What might happen if Jesus says it is right to pay the tax? What if he says it is not right?
- What does Jesus require before answering? What effect does this have? What is revealed?
- How does Jesus' final answer (v. 17) avoid the trap? What questions are his challengers now forced to ask? How are these questions relevant for us too?
- What are the similarities and significant differences between Caesar and the Roman Empire's authority on the one hand and our political leaders and governments' authority on the other? How will this guide your application of Jesus' command?
- What must we render or give back to God? What is a concrete and practical way for you to do that this week? How can your small group or others support and pray for you in this?

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**For Family Discussion:** Take any coin and examine together its images and words. Ask: *What does this coin tell us about our nation?* Read *Mark 12:13-17*. Ask: *Why are the religious leaders asking Jesus about paying taxes? How does God give us our money and everything else? What does Jesus want us to do when he says, "Give to God what is God's"?*

\*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.