

Eastridge Church
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 40: How to Follow Jesus in Tough Times

Passage: Mark 12:28-34



Conversation Starter:

What has been the best part of quarantine and what has been the most challenging?

Re-read Mark 12:28-34

In this passage Jesus has an encounter with the third group that has significant authority at the Sanhedrin, the scribes. *What do you remember from the sermon that was unique about this group?*

This scribe asks a question that we can all be thankful for. In essence he asks, “What is the highest priority for those who believe in God?” Judaism is a religion that is characterized by a long list of commandments that are found within the first 5 books of the Bible, and this was a question that was debated for centuries. *In what specific ways does this question test Jesus? What is the goal of the scribe with this question?*

The scribe asks Jesus for a single commandment that stands above the rest, but Jesus responds by giving him two commandments. *In your own words, why did Jesus give the scribe two commandments? What is at the heart of each commandment and what binds them together?*

Pastor Dwain highlighted the following three points as the heart of Jesus’ response to the scribe:

- **Love God... truly**
- **Love People... sacrificially**
- **Read your Bible**

Spend some time as a group unpacking those three points. What would it look like to practice this way of living both inwardly and outwardly? Is there one that comes more naturally for you? Is there one that the Holy Spirit is highlighting to you that you need His help with more?

Close your time together in prayer. Ask that the Holy Spirit would highlight specific opportunities for you this week as you look to love God and love people amid these challenging days.