Mark Lesson 40 (2023)

**TRIBUTE TO GOD AND DUTY TO NATION**

(Mark 12:13-17)

**Open it:**

1. What does it mean to you to be patriotic? What feelings do you have about your home country? What do you believe is fair or unfair about having to pay taxes?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verse 13. Who sent the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus? (13) What were the Pharisees and Herodians trying to accomplish with their visit to Jesus?
2. Read verses 14-15a. How did the religious leaders try to trick Jesus? Why do you think the religious leaders complimented Jesus before they asked tricked questions? What is good or bad about flattery? What were the loaded questions they asked Jesus?
3. Read verses 15b-16. In what way were the religious leaders guilty of hypocrisy? What did Jesus ask the religious leaders to bring him? Why?
4. Read verse 17. What did Jesus mean when he said, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s”? What does this story teach about being patriotic to your country? What belongs to God that we should give back to him?

**Apply it:**

1. What is one thing or area of your life that you have withheld from the Lord but want to give back to him?