

**Jesus and Politics**

Mark 12:13-17

Pastor John Sloan

Introduction: As Christians, what posture should we take toward our government? Should we be constant critics, sharing our disgust with anyone who will listen, or should we retreat for the hills, recognizing the seemingly endless disappointment of political leadership? Or is there a more balanced biblical position?

Implications of Jesus' Answer on Taxes**01.****02.****03.****04.****05.****Questions for Further Discussion and Discovery**

1. In what ways does Jesus bring people together? How do we see His unifying power displayed in the church? In what ways do people join together *against* Him?
2. Is being a good American the same as being a good Christian? Why or why not? Conversely, does being a good Christian equal being a good American?
3. Why is it problematic (and naïve) to assume that God's people are tied to one particular nation?
4. Explain this statement: "The greatest problem we face in this world is not a political one, it's a spiritual one."
5. If the statement above is correct (see #4), then what's the only real solution for our predicament?
6. Are there areas in your life where your resistance to the authority of God has disrupted your communication with Him? How will you seek to address those areas (with the help of other believers)?