

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

In your own words summarize the main idea of last week's passage (11:27-12:34)

Read Mark 12:35-44. Share 2-3 observations of what you see in the passage and then answer some or all of the following questions:

In vs 35 - 37 Jesus poses a riddle as to whose son the Christ (messiah) is.

What does vs 36 teach us about how Jesus views the scriptures?

Why does Jesus ask this particular question?

How does applying Psalm 110 to Jesus fill out Jesus' teaching on the nature of the messiah? What does it teach about the nature of God?

Read all of Psalm 110, what else does it teach about the Christ?

Jesus just affirmed a scribe as being close to the Kingdom of God (12:34), why does he now speak negatively against the scribes in a broad manner?

Jesus gives multiple examples of the scribes cultivating an external image of piety and devotion but then indicts them as people guilty of great evil.

What is Jesus warning against in this teaching?

What is the core problem or sin at work in these scribes?

In our current world, how do you see leaders, businesses, etc. use "faith" to advance their own kingdoms and agendas?

How do you find yourself tempted to use Christianity and the things of God to advance your own desires and agenda?

How can we discern the truly pious from those who merely pretend?

In vs 41 - 44 Jesus highlights the gift given by a widow.

What point is Jesus making to the disciples by his observations about the widow's offering?

What does this episode teach about financial stewardship?

What does it teach about obedience?

What does it teach about faith?

How does the widow demonstrate what the Temple is supposed to be?

What new understanding of God have you gained or become more convinced of by this passage? How will this influence how you trust and obey God?

How is God inviting you to live out your faith in a real, authentic, and God-pleasing way like the widow did?

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