By What Authority ? Mark Lesson 21

**Lesson 21 – By What Authority ?**

**Mark 11:27- 12:27**

**Day 1 – Review**

1. What challenged or encouraged you from the lecture, and how did it help you in your Christian walk?

2. What in the notes helped you to understand God’s Word, and how did you   
apply it?

**Day 2 – Read Mark 11:27-33**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson. One possible verse to pray is Proverbs 16:3.   
Lord, I commit my works to you today, and thank you that my plans will be established.*

3. Did Jesus answer the chief priests’ and scribes’ question? What did He do instead?

4. ***Thought Question:*** What kept the religious leaders from answering Jesus’ question to them?

5. What truth was Jesus trying to get the religious leaders to acknowledge?   
(Refer to Mark 11:33 for help with your answer.)

6. ***Personal Question:*** Jesus often withholds truth from those who refuse to accept His authority or who reject the truth He has already given them. In what ways are you acting or living in any way that shows your heart is questioning Jesus’ authority in your life?

7. Can you identify a biblical truth you are avoiding by saying “I don’t know?”   
What truth has God revealed to you in His Word that you are refusing to obey?

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***Apply this day:*** *As you study God’s Word and as He impacts your heart, make a list of biblical truths you have been avoiding. Ask the Lord to open your eyes to the truth from His Word. Act on what He shows you.*

**Day 3 – Read Mark 12:1-12**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

8. To whom does Jesus tell this story (parable)? If you are not sure, look back at Mark 11:27.

9. ***Thought Question:*** Explain what each of the following represents in   
this parable:

The vineyard owner:

The vineyard: (See Isaiah 5:1-5)

The fruit of the vineyard:,

The tenants:

The three servants: (See 2 Chron 36:15-16)

The beloved son:

The others who inherit the vineyard:

The builders:

The cornerstone:

10. Read Matthew Chapter 23. ***Personal Question:*** Which of Jesus’ criticisms of the Pharisees stood out to you the most and why?

11. After Jesus told this parable, how did the religious leaders respond? What kind of feelings and fears do you think this parable aroused in them?

12. ***Thought Question:*** Jesus ends His parable by quoting Psalm 118:22-23. Google the definition of “capstone” or “cornerstone” and describe how Jesus has become our capstone or cornerstone.

***Apply this day:*** *Evaluate how you’ve been responding to Jesus, and repent of any hypocritical behavior that God has revealed in your life.*

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**Day 4 – Read Mark 12:13-17**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

13. Who did the chief priests send to Jesus and why? (Give verse)

14. What does verse 15 say that Jesus knew?

15. ***Thought Question:*** How can you give to Caesar what is Caesar’s today?

16. What reason did Jesus give for paying taxes to Caesar? What did Jesus say should be given to God? Cite the verses.

17. ***Personal/Thought Question***: Who bears God’s image? Following this logic, what should we render to God? Use the following verses to help with your answer:

Genesis 1:27-

Romans 12:1

***Apply this day:*** *To what extent are you rendering to God what is His? Pray and ask Him today to help you become a living sacrifice as your spiritual act of worship to Him.*

**Day 5 – Read Mark 12:18-27**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

18. What group is challenging Jesus in this passage?

19. The Sadducees were the wealthiest and most politically influential of all the Jewish sects. What’s one very significant area in which the Sadducees’ interpretation of Scripture differed from the Pharisees (see verse 18)?

20. In your own words, summarize their question to Jesus.

21. According to verse 24 what did Jesus say was the root of their problem with scriptural interpretation?

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22. ***Personal Question:*** How much time and effort do you give to knowing the Scriptures? Why is this important?

23. ***Thought Question:*** Jesus used Moses’ encounter with the burning bush to counter the Sadducees false doctrine of no resurrection. What statement does   
Jesus use in verse 27 that emphasizes the biblical truth of resurrection*? For  
 deeper reflection, read Exodus 3:1-4:17 where God first appeared to Moses at the burning bush.*

***Apply this day:*** *From your knowledge of the Scriptures, what could you tell people about the resurrection, heaven, and life after death? Begin preparing today by studying passages from God’s Word on these great truths and then sharing what   
you learn with your group or with a friend.*

**Day 6 – Reread Mark  12:17 (SOAP)**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

**Scripture** – *Write the verse.*

**Observation** – *Record something you learned from this verse. Possible questions to ask for observation: What principle do I learn? What warning should I heed?   
What commandment should I obey? What aspect of God’s character do I see?*

**Application** *– How can I apply this verse to my life?*

**Prayer** *– Pray to God, praise Him, and ask Him for what you need in response to what you learned. Write down your prayer.*