

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Mark 12:28-35



REDEEMER
ROUND ROCK

CONNECT, REVIEW, PRAY

~5-10 minutes

- Announce any church activities/events and handle any housekeeping for the GC
- What are you thankful for / have struggled with this week?
- How did you apply or share what we learned last week?
- How can we pray for each other?

READ & RE-TELL

~5-10 minutes

- Have someone read out loud from the ESV translation.
- Have someone read out loud from a different translation.
- Do we need to define any confusing/unknown/curious words or phrases?
- Ask one person to re-tell the passage in their own words (different from the person reading).

ASK, LISTEN, LEARN

~30+ minutes

- What does this passage tell us about the character and nature of God?
- What does this passage tell us about ourselves/humanity?
- What does this passage tell us about the relationship between God and people?
- Review "FURTHER APPLICATION" questions.

APPLY, OBEY, GO

~10+ minutes

- Does anything in this passage change how you should live, or how you view God / people / yourself?
- Does this passage reveal a specific sin in your life?
- How can you live differently this coming week, with what you've learned?

FURTHER APPLICATION

1. Given that the man asking the question in our text is a Scribe (expert in Jewish law; like a lawyer), how should we understand his question? What is he really asking Jesus?
2. Pastor Jordan said in his sermon, "Every person is asking a similar question in their life; What must I do to be blessed? And they are following their answer like it is the greatest commandment." Do you agree with this? How do you see this around you? How do you see it in your life?
3. Consider Jesus's answer to the scribe in v.29-31. Why do you think the scribe responds the way he did in v.32-33?
4. Discuss how Jesus's life, death, and resurrection fulfills the greatest commandment. How is this good news for those who repent and believe upon Christ?

5 HELPFUL GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

1. *If you talk a lot, allow space for someone else to speak up.*
2. *If you don't talk as much, work on sharing more.*
3. *Focus on what this passage is saying, don't stray too far from it. Seek not only to understand more about God through the passage, but also how it specifically applies to your own life as a Christian.*
4. *Give other people time to respond, silence is ok.*
5. *Respect your GC family and exercise grace.*

COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

***Mark 12:28-35**

The greatest commandment (see Mt. 22:34–40; Lk. 10:25–28). This teacher of the law came to Jesus with what may have been a real question, to judge from Jesus' answer. In a sense, Jesus' reply to him contained nothing new; it was drawn from the Scriptures which would have been familiar to the teacher. Jesus placed love for God at the heart of the law; love for our neighbour should and will spring naturally from this as a consequence. If we try to put love of neighbour first or, worse still, leave out the love for God altogether, we shall make shipwreck of our lives and fail even to love our neighbour as we should. On the other hand, if we say that we love God, and do not love our neighbour, we are hypocrites (1 Jn. 4:20). Although the teacher agreed that all this was true, and therefore was very near the kingdom of God, he was not yet a member of it as he had not yet acknowledged Jesus as king. Did he ever do so?

Cole, R. A. (1994). Mark. In D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer, & G. J. Wenham (Eds.), *New Bible commentary: 21st century edition* (4th ed., p. 969). Inter-Varsity Press.