

Like Jesus: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of August 16th.

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** to complete foundational questions in the book for week 5 using the scripture below.

Week 27: Mark 12:28-34

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"Jesus proceeded to condemn His accusers who had condemned Him. They had condemned Him because He did not fit their ideas of Messiah. He had shown that the Old Testament presented a different Messiah than the one they wanted. Now He condemned them for failing to measure up to what the Old Testament required of them. This section concludes Mark's account of Jesus' public ministry and resumes Jesus' teaching of His disciples." – **Constable Notes**

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- What are some of the specific actions and behaviors Jesus draws attention to in the scribes? In what ways can people today still fall into the same trap of seeking status and public praise? Consider a time in your own life when you did.
- How does the poor widow's contribution differ from the gifts of the rich people? What is Jesus doing by drawing out this contrast? What does this story teach about how God measures the value of our generosity and sacrifice?
- Consider the two stories together (warning about religious leaders & the widow's gift). What is Mark's point in connecting the two? As you think of the widow, how does your personal spending and giving habits reflected your true trust in God? What story would they tell those who would observe?