

**“Teaching a Tough Crowd”
Matthew 22:15-40**

In the days leading up to His crucifixion, Jesus faced an onslaught of scheming questions from the jealous religious leaders who wanted to discredit Him before the people. We can learn much from Christ’s wisdom as He masterfully handles these questions.

Political Question (15-22)

- Purposeful Request (15-17)
- Profound Reply (18-21)

Doctrinal Question (23-33)

- Sadducees’ Ridicule (23-28)
- Savior’s Rebuke (29-32)

Practical Question (34-40)

- Debated Topic (34-36)
- Direct Teaching (37-40)

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Jesus showed great wisdom in His answers. Who is someone you go to (or have gone to) for wisdom and counsel?

Discussion Questions

1. Share something that impressed you, challenged you, or raised a question from our study of Matthew 22:15-40.
2. What would it look like to follow Christ’s counsel to “render to Caesar what is Caesar’s and unto God what is God’s?”
3. The Sadducees showed that they did not know the Scriptures or the power of God. Why are BOTH of these important?
4. What does it mean to love the Lord with all our heart, soul & mind? Why did Jesus add “love your neighbor” to this great commandment?

Small Group Prayer

Begin your prayer with praise to Jesus for His great wisdom. Ask for His help to grow in godly wisdom and in your wholehearted love for Him.