

## Paying Taxes to Caesar - Luke 20:20-26

**Topics:** Deceit, Dishonesty, Government, Hypocrisy, Jesus Christ, Money, Questions, Silence, Truth, Wisdom

### Open It

1. What is the general attitude in our country toward government?
- \* 2. When was the last time someone tried to deceive you?
3. What do your friends and coworkers think about having to pay taxes?

### Explore It

4. Who sent the spies? (20:19-20)
- \* 5. Why did the religious leaders send spies? (20:20)
6. Why did the religious leaders want to hand Jesus over to the governor? (20:20)
7. What did the spies do to trap Jesus? (20:21)
8. How did the spies demonstrate hypocrisy? (20:21)
- \* 9. In what way was the question the spies asked a trick question? (20:22)
10. What did Jesus think of the spies? (20:23)
- \* 11. How did Jesus respond to the spies' question? (20:24)
12. How was Jesus' response a show of His wisdom? (20:24-25)
13. Why were the spies astonished by Jesus' answer? (20:26)

### Get It

14. How might you have responded to the spies' question?
- \* 15. When have you been asked difficult or misleading questions by people hostile to Christianity?
16. How did the spies use flattery?
17. Why do we like to be flattered?
18. Why do we flatter others?
19. In what way do we need to guard against flattery?
- \* 20. What does this passage reveal about Jesus' wisdom?
21. What belongs to the government that we should give to it?
22. How would you define your responsibility to the government?
23. When should a Christian go against the demands of the government?
24. What responsibility do you think we have to obey the laws of the government?
25. Jesus taught us to "give to God what is God's"; what importance does this statement have for you?
26. What belongs to God that we should give to Him?
27. What have you held back from the Lord that you are now willing to commit to Him?

### Apply It

- \* 28. What preparations can you make for the tough questions that you will encounter as a follower of Christ?
29. In what situations this week do you want to make a conscious effort to avoid flattery?
30. What obligations to the government do you need to fulfill?
31. How can you obey more fully this week Christ's command to "give to God what is God's"?