

Render to Caesar

Luke 20:19-26 // Pastor Todd Dugard

June 9 - 10, 2018

Open Up

What will you do for Canada day this year? How could July 1st become an opportunity for you to apply specific points from this sermon?

Dig In: I must be devoted to the holy and eternal rather than the profane and temporal.

- The citizens and conquered people of the Roman empire lived under a radically different government system than we do. As a church, what advantages do we have under a democracy that the early disciples didn't have? How can we express thanks for this government system?
- Given that Scripture is clear that government is instituted by God to maintain order, how does the stability our government provides increase the opportunities to advance as a disciple in this region of our country? (Discussion may go towards things like communication systems, legal protections, financial support, infrastructure, health care etc. which may not be seen immediately as government responsibilities that indirectly support us as we follow Jesus' teaching.)
- In situations where God's command supersedes government's direction, how might we "render to God what is God's" when it will upset "Caesar"?
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-13 captures the Apostle's commitment to preach even when it was politically incorrect to do so. Yet, real risks to our safety and comfort tempt us to satisfy Caesar and forsake the Lord. How do we build resolve to follow Christ and speak for him when our safety and comfort will be jeopardized?
- How can our public statements about government individuals or initiatives be more consistent with the attitudes expressed in Romans 13:1-8 and 1 Timothy 2:1-2?

Break Out

Discuss discouragements related to following Christ in this political climate. Seek to encourage faithfulness in these situations and promote strategies to support others who are obeying God rather than human leaders. Pray for God to lead this government to maintain a system of order than he will use to build the church.

