



## Exploring the Intersection of Faith & Politics

### #2: "The Problem of Dual Citizenship"

**Goal:** to consider our first allegiance to the Kingdom of God as our ultimate hope and source of security & strength.

**Open:** *When it comes to paying your taxes do you...*

- ... get them done early?
- ... procrastinate & wait till the last minute?
- ... stand in line at the post office on April 15<sup>th</sup> to make sure they're postmarked in time?
- ... wait too late and have to file for an extension?

\*\* *What does this say about your personality?*

**Dig:** Mark 12:13-17

- What do you know about the two groups who come after Jesus in this story? Where are their allegiances? What is their intent?
- What kind of man do they know Jesus to be? How has that set him apart from others?
- Are they really interested in Jesus paying his taxes? What is their real intent?
- How is Jesus' response an offense to Caesar, and by extension the entire Roman Empire (kingdom of the world)?

**Discuss:**

- Describe what was meant in the lesson by "dual citizenship." What two 'kingdoms' are WE citizens of?

- Can you brainstorm some rights & privileges that come with being a United States citizen? What do you appreciate the most?
- What rights & privileges come with citizenship in the Kingdom of God? What do you appreciate the most?
- What are some of the responsibilities which come from being a citizen... of the world? ...of the kingdom of God?
- Have there been times in your life where these "kingdoms" have collided or come into conflict? How did you resolve the conflict? What was David Lipscomb's conflict and how did he resolve it?

**Additional verses:** John 18:5; 1 Peter 2:11,12; Phil 3:20

- What do these verses tell us about our allegiances?
- How is this "good news"?

**Prayer...** *"how can we pray for you tonight?"*