

Ask Nicely or...Ask Nicely and...

Matthew 22:15-33

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in *His* talk. ¹⁶ And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. ¹⁷ Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

¹⁸ But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "**Why do you test Me, you hypocrites?** ¹⁹ Show Me the tax money."

So, they brought Him a denarius.

²⁰ And He said to them, "**Whose image and inscription is this?**"

²¹ They said to Him, "Caesar's."

And He said to them, "**Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.**" ²² When they had heard *these words*, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.

²³ The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him, ²⁴ saying: "Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁵ Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. ²⁷ Last of all the woman died also. ²⁸ Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her."

²⁹ Jesus answered and said to them, "**You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.** ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven. ³¹ But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." ³³ And when the multitudes heard *this*, they were astonished at His teaching.

Mark 4:9-13, ...⁹ And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

¹⁰ But when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable. ¹¹ And He said to them, "**To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, ¹² so that 'Seeing they may see and not perceive, And hearing they may hear and not understand; Lest they should turn, And their sins be forgiven them.'**

¹³ And He said to them, "**Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? ...**

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Group devotional time with our God: With the right heart and attitude can ask Him anything. Why shouldn't we? He is not only our God, but also our Father, our Lord, and King, and He is our Bestie who will be with us always until the end and into eternity.

A few verses in the Bible which God promises to be with us to give us hope and peace throughout both the highs and lows of life.

Jeremiah 29:11-14a, ¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity;

Hebrews 13:5-6, ⁵ Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶ So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

John 14:15-18, ¹⁵ "If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Joshua 1:9, ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Leviticus 26:8-9, ⁸ Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you.

⁹ For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm My covenant with you.

Deuteronomy 31:6, ⁶ Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

John 14:26-27, ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said

