SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Luke

Chapter 20

The Stone the Builders Rejected

MEMORY VERSE · LUKE 20:25

“render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Luke 20

In the temple, one group after another tried to trap Jesus, and every time He answered with the truth and turned the question back on their hearts. This week He asks you the same kind of questions — whose life is this, whose image do you bear, and who is Jesus to you — not to catch you, but to set you free.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the Luke study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

By What Authority?

READ · LUKE 20:1–8

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the leaders ask Jesus, what question did He ask them back, and why would they not answer it (20:2–7)?

REFLECT

The leaders "reasoned among themselves" about what each answer would cost them (20:5–6). When do you find yourself working out what the truth will cost you before you decide whether to say it?

REFLECT

Jesus' authority was right in front of them, and they still would not admit it (20:7). Where in your life do you already know what Jesus is asking, but you keep saying, "I don't know"?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one thing you already know God wants you to do, and do it today without waiting for more answers.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 20:25)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Beloved Son

READ · LUKE 20:9–19

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Whom did the owner send to the vineyard, what did the vine-growers do to each one, and what did the owner finally decide to do (20:10–16)?

REFLECT

The vine-growers acted like the vineyard was theirs (20:14). What part of your life — your time, your money, your body, your future — have you been treating as yours instead of God's?

REFLECT

Jesus said everyone who falls on the stone will be broken, but the one it falls on will be crushed (20:18). What would it look like for you to be broken in humility before Jesus instead of fighting Him?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one area you have been holding as "mine," and pray out loud, "Lord, this is Your vineyard, not mine."

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 20:25)

DAY 3 OF 5

Whose Image?

READ · LUKE 20:20–26

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How did the spies try to trap Jesus, what did He ask them to show Him, and what was His answer (20:20–25)?

REFLECT

The coin had Caesar's likeness on it, so it belonged to Caesar (20:24–25). You were made in God's image — what does it mean to give yourself back to Him?

REFLECT

Jesus told them to pay what they owed to the government too (20:25). Is there something you owe — a debt, a fine, a responsibility, honest work — that you need to take care of as part of following Jesus?

RESPOND — TODAY

Take one practical step today toward paying something you owe, and give God one hour of your day that is fully His.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 20:25)

DAY 4 OF 5

The God of the Living

READ · LUKE 20:27–40

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the Sadducees not believe, what story did they tell, and what did Jesus say about those who rise from the dead (20:27–38)?

REFLECT

Jesus said God "is not the God of the dead but of the living; for all live to Him" (20:38). Who have you lost who died in the Lord, and how does this verse speak to your grief?

REFLECT

Those raised to life "cannot even die anymore" (20:36). How would believing in the resurrection change the way you face your own death, your mistakes, and the years you feel you have wasted?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God by name for one believer you have lost, and tell someone this week what you believe about the resurrection.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 20:25)

DAY 5 OF 5

David's Lord

READ · LUKE 20:41–47

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What question did Jesus ask about David's son, what did David call Him, and what did Jesus warn His disciples about the scribes (20:41–47)?

REFLECT

David called the Messiah "Lord" (20:44). Is Jesus just a good teacher to you, or is He your Lord — and how would someone watching your week be able to tell?

REFLECT

The scribes loved long robes, best seats and long prayers, but they took advantage of widows (20:46–47). Where are you tempted to look good in front of people while your private life tells a different story?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do one quiet, unseen act of kindness today for someone who cannot pay you back, and tell no one about it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 20:25)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Jesus answered every trap with the truth and Scripture (20:3–4, 17, 25, 37, 42). When men try to trip us up about our faith, how can we answer with truth instead of anger?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

The vineyard owner kept sending servants and finally sent his beloved son (20:10–13). How have you seen God's patience with you, and how should that shape how we treat each other?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Jesus said to give Caesar what is Caesar's and God what is God's (20:25). What is one thing each of us needs to give back to God this week, and how can the group hold us to it?

MY PRAYER

Father, my life is Your vineyard and I bear Your image, so today I give back to You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · LUKE 20:25

"render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."