

Jesus Questioned about the Resurrection Discussion Questions for Mark 12:18-27

1. What misconceptions do people often have about God?
2. How could a person's misunderstanding of God's character influence his or her attitude toward Christianity?
3. What is one thing you have learned about God that you did not understand when you were a child?
4. Who were the Sadducees, and what did they want from Jesus? (12:18)
5. What unique belief did the Sadducees have? (12:18)
6. How did the Sadducees address Jesus? (12:19)
7. What instruction of Moses did the Sadducees cite to support their theology about the Resurrection? (12:19)
8. What complicated scenario did the Sadducees develop to get Jesus' opinion about the Resurrection? (12:20–23)
9. What was the basic principle underlying the Sadducees' question? (12:23)
10. How did Jesus respond to the Sadducees' question? (12:24–27)
11. In what way were the Sadducees "in error"? (12:24–27)
12. What was wrong with the Sadducees' viewpoint? (12:24–27)
13. How will life in heaven differ from life on earth? (12:25)
14. What did God say to Moses "in the account of the bush"? (12:26)
15. How is God's description of His own character relevant to this discussion with the Sadducees? (12:26)
16. How did Jesus lend authority to His response to the Sadducees? (12:26)
17. What did Jesus mean when He referred to God as "not the God of the dead, but of the living"? (12:27)
18. How did Jesus show the Sadducees that the dead are raised? (12:26–27)
19. Why did Jesus refer to the book of Moses in His response to the Sadducees?

20. How do you think the Sadducees reacted to Jesus' stern rebuke in this passage?
21. In what ways do you think Christians today misinterpret what the Scriptures actually say?
22. How can we guard against reading into Scripture what we want it to say?
23. What specifically can you do to prevent yourself from being as "badly mistaken" about what Jesus taught as the Sadducees were?
24. Over what issues do religious leaders disagree today?
25. How can we know who is right when we hear conflicting opinions about God or theology?
26. Do you think you "know the Scriptures" and "the power of God" in your life, and if not, what can you do to mature in these areas of your Christian walk?
27. What can you learn from the Sadducees' negative example in this episode?
28. What difference does it make to you that God "is not the God of the dead, but of the living"?
29. How could you benefit from the insight of another believer?
30. What concrete action would you be willing to take this week to get to know the Scriptures better?
31. How could you make a conscious effort to learn from those who are more informed about the Scriptures and wiser than you?
32. How can you learn more about the Scriptures this week?