

## THE BIG IDEA: Our hands and feet reveal our heart.

### The Take-Off

Have you ever heard someone say that there are no stupid questions?

It's not true. There are at least 2, and we're going to find them in our text this week.

But just to be sure that we don't unnecessarily offend anyone, we'll call them BAD questions instead of stupid ones.

Mainly because I think I may have asked these at one time or another and I don't want to feel stupid.

Now, there are a lot of things that reveal the grace of God, aren't there?

Forgiveness when we sin. Provision when we squander. But the grace of God here astonishes me, because even though

Jesus was asked bad questions and could have given snarky answers, He didn't.

He gave better answers to the bad questions.

For any of us in the house who have asked a stupid, um, *bad* question once or twice, aren't we thankful for a gracious

Dad who gives us a better answer than our questions deserved?

Let's read [Luke 20:20-40](#). You might feel a little lost as we read through it, but we'll break it down and handle one bad question at a time.

### 1. 2 bad questions and 2 better answers

- a. Before we take a look at the first bad question, let's make sure that we all understand what makes a question bad, and in the context of our passage, it's only one thing: a bad question is any question that we ask when we have no intention of being changed by the answer.
- b. "Honey, can I help you with the dishes?" isn't a bad question unless you plan to stay seated in front of the TV even when the answer is yes.
- c. In our scripture today, we find men asking questions for one reason: to dismiss Jesus and his authority.
- d. Here's **the first bad question**: "**Should I honor the government with my money?**"
  - They actually asked, "Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" but I've adapted it for today
  - This may be a question that you wrestled with just a few weeks ago at the tax deadline!
  - It's a bad question, not because money questions are bad, but because they had no interest in learning from the answer. Verse 20 revealed their intent: trap Jesus and turn him over to the authorities.
  - Jesus saw through the trap and responded with a better answer: **Honor God with your money.**
  - There's no need to do any kind of a deep dive into this, but you'll notice that Jesus gave an answer that they weren't asking for.
  - Jesus knew that they weren't really asking about taxes. They were asking about allegiance, and they were hoping that his answer would cause him to lose allegiance from his followers or reveal a lack of allegiance to the rulers.
  - Jesus would have none of it and gave a profound, simple answer.
  - Basically, he was rephrasing [Matthew 6:33](#) - seek first the kingdom and everything else will fall into place
  - I love verse 26! Better answers silence the people who ask bad questions!
- e. So that group left Jesus alone, but in stepped a second group called the Sadducees.
  - The Sadducees were a Jewish political party of priests that were educated and usually wealthy.
  - They are often mentioned along with the Pharisees, but they didn't get along with them.
  - They also didn't believe in the resurrection. We see that in verse 27.
  - That may be why they were "Sad, you see."
- f. They asked Jesus a question about a woman who outlived a bunch of brothers but never had any children.
- g. It sounds like a bad math test question, but at the end they ask which of the brothers she'll be married to after the resurrection.
- h. For us, **the second bad question** can be phrased like this: "**Who will I be married to in heaven?**"
  - First, this isn't an inherently bad question
  - All of us have wondered about this at some point or another, but what makes this a bad question is the fact that the SADDUCEES asked it - they don't even BELIEVE IN the resurrection!
  - So Jesus answered their bad question with another better answer: **Jesus.**
- i. He basically pointed out that marriage is something earthly that prepares us for heaven, for another wedding to a better groom - Jesus - the God of the living!

## 2. A shift (and a few takeaways)

- a. Again, what makes a question a bad one is asking it with no intention of considering the answer, and that means that we need to make a shift from the hypothetical to the actual
- b. Let's spend the rest of our time talking through **the chart** comparing the shifts:
  - Talks vs Does
    - **1 Corinthians 4:20** / not a kingdom of talk, but of power (for doing)
    - **John 13:17** / the blessing is in the doing
  - Costs nothing vs Costs something
    - **2 Samuel 24:24** / I won't give what cost me nothing
  - Allows me to be right vs Allows me to be used
  - Unproven vs Proven
    - **1 Peter 1:6-7** / a proven faith is valuable
    - **Philippians 4:9** / a proven faith is repeatable
  - Virtual obedience vs Visible obedience
    - Nothing takes the place of ACTUAL obedience
    - [VIDEO / Francis Chan "Clean your room"]

### The Landing

This week's Big Idea simply says this: **our hands and feet reveal our heart.**

We do what we actually want to do, and to simply talk in hypotheticals may sound mature, but true maturity moves. Let's pray.