

Study Guide on Matthew 23:2-12 & Mark 12:38-44

New Revised Standard Version

Assign each person in the class one or more verses to study.
Each person should answer these two questions on their assigned verse.

1. What does this verse say?
2. What does this verse mean to me?
3. Discuss your answers with the class.

Matthew 23:2-12

(Matthew 23:2) “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat;

(Matthew 23:3) therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach.

(Matthew 23:4) They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.

(Matthew 23:5) They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long.

(Matthew 23:6) They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues,

(Matthew 23:7) and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi.

(Matthew 23:8) But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.

(Matthew 23:9) And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father--the one in heaven.

(Matthew 23:10) Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.

(Matthew 23:11) The greatest among you will be your servant.

(Matthew 23:12) All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Mark 12:38-44

(Mark 12:38) As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,

(Mark 12:39) and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets!

(Mark 12:40) They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

(Mark 12:41) He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.

(Mark 12:42) A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.

(Mark 12:43) Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.

(Mark 12:44) For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Write the verse or verses you have been assigned in the space below:

Answer These Questions for Class Discussion or Study

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean to me?