



## **Growth Group Discussion Guide**

Passage: Mark 12:18-27

**Introduction:** This is the fourth of six conflicts between Jesus and the religious leaders during the final week of his earthly ministry. Each of these conflicts center on the question of Jesus' authority. In this passage the Sadducees seek to discredit Jesus by debating him on the topic of "the resurrection". Jesus' response reveals not only their spiritual blindness but also the Bible's full testimony to the resurrection of God's people.



### **Into the Word**

*"He is not God of the dead, but of the living" - Mark 12:27*

What aspect of in this passage do you find the most confusing or surprising?

**Read Deuteronomy 25:5-6** How would you explain the Sadducees' view of the resurrection? Why did they find it absurd? (v. 19-23)

*Note: The Sadducees only held that the Pentateuch was authoritative.*

Why is the phrase "I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" an excellent proof for the resurrection?

*Note: This phrase is shorthand for God's covenant promises with His people.*

What does Jesus' response teach us about relationships after the resurrection? (v. 25)

*Note: In the state of glory temporary aspects of relationships (i.e. marriage) will give way to perfect and unchangeable relationships with God and others.*



### **Into the Heart**

*"You know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God" - Mark 12:24*

What motivates people to reject or ignore an aspect of God's Word?

**Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17** What should we expect when we encounter God's Word?

*Consider: Hebrews 4:12*



### **Into the World**

*"There are some things in [the Scriptures] that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction" - 2 Peter 3:16*

Which theological topics does our culture makes the most assumptions about? What is informing these assumptions?

What can we learn from Jesus about how to approach the wayward or deceived?