

Q. Children and teens are you playing tug-a-war with your parents?

Colossians 3:20 “Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.”

Q. Wives are you and your husband in a constant tug-a-war lately?

Colossians 3:18 “Wives, submit to your husbands as is fitting to the Lord.”

Q. Is there a tug-a-war at work with the boss?

Ephesians 6:5 “Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.”

B. Are you in a tug-a-war with the Lord Jesus Christ?

**Q. Is there something the Lord wants you to change?
Is there something He wants you to do?
Are you in a tug-a-war with Jesus?**

**Q. Have you trusted Jesus to be your personal Savior?
Is there a tug-a-war in your heart between what you think and what God’s Word says?
Is the Lord trying to get your attention?**

Phil. 2:9 “Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, ^[10] That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ^[11] And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

A Question About Authority

Mark 11:27-33

Lesson #46

8-16-26

Romans 13:1 “Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”

Colossians 3:22 “Slaves obey your earthly masters in everything, and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.”

Ephesians 6:1 “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

Ephesians 6:22 “Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ^[23] For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church, His body, of which He is Savior.”

Hebrews 13:17 “Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.”

I. Jesus was confronted by His enemies.

A. They approached Jesus.

Mark 11:27 “They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to Him.”

B. They asked Jesus about His authority.

****Mark 11:28** “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you authority to do this?”

Matthew 28:18 “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.”

1. Jesus taught with authority.

Mark 1:22 “The people were amazed at His teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.”

2. Jesus has authority to forgive sins.

Mark 2:10 “But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins He said to the paralytic ^[11] I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”

3. Jesus has authority over demons.

Mark 1:24b “... What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!”

Mark 1:27 “The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey Him.”

Luke 10:17 “The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”

4. Jesus has authority over life and death.

John 10:18 “No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

5. Jesus has authority to grant people eternal life.

John 1:12 “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.”

6. Jesus has authority to judge all humanity.

John 5:22 “Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son.”

II. Jesus countered His enemies with a question.

****Mark 11:29** “Jesus replied, “I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

****Mark 11:30** “John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!”

Mark 1:2 “It is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way.”

Mark 1:4 “And so John came baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.”

Luke 1:16 “Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.”

Luke 1:17 “And He will go before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous – to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Luke 1:15 “For he will be great in the sight of the Lord.”

****Mark 11:30** “John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!”

III. Jesus’ enemies claimed ignorance.

A. They debated the question from Jesus among themselves.

Mark 11:31 “They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’

Mark 11:32 “But if we say, ‘Of human origin’ ...” (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.)”

Luke 20:6 “But if we say, ‘From men,’ all the people will stone us, because they are persuaded that John was a prophet.”

B. They denied knowing the answer to the question of Jesus.

Mark 11:33a “So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

C. Jesus declined giving them an answer.

Mark 11:33b “... Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

How can we apply this lesson to our life?

A. Are you in a tug-a-war with human authority in your life?