



Journey Church

Strange Stories

July 30, 2023

Strange Stories

Matthew 17:24-27

On their arrival in Capernaum, the collectors of the Temple tax came to Peter and asked him, “Doesn’t your teacher pay the Temple tax?” “Yes, he does,” Peter replied. Then he went into the house. But before he had a chance to speak, Jesus asked him, “What do you think, Peter? Do kings tax their own people or the people they have conquered?” “They tax the people they have conquered,” Peter replied. “Well, then,” Jesus said, “the citizens are free! However, we don’t want to offend them, so go down to the lake and throw in a line. Open the mouth of the first fish you catch, and you will find a large silver coin. Take it and pay the tax for both of us.”

God’s Story:

Matthew 17:24-27, 12:6

1. Identity

1 Peter 2:1-17

- Practice self-sacrifice over self-centeredness

2. Mission

Philippians 2:3-11; John 18:36; 2 Corinthians 6

- Learn to give up personal privilege for God’s greater purposes

Living this way leads to...

1 Timothy 2:1–6; 1 Corinthians 8 & 9

- Peace
- Salvation
- Freedom

Questions/Topics for this week:

1. What does it look like to give up personal privilege for God's greater purposes?
2. What does changing the things we do to support the "weaker brother or sister" look like in today's context?
3. There is a certain freedom that comes with not being self-centered. Have you experienced this, and if so how did it make you feel?

Be Intentional:

This week examine the things that you do that, while you are free to do them, might cause others to struggle. Practice laying them down to support your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pray:

Spend time praying together. What are some ways in which you can pray for each other? Take some time in the coming week to explore ways in which you can encourage one another. Remember to share with your group what you are learning about those opportunities and reflect on God's Word as you pray for each other.