

**Sunday, October 31, 2021 – Easter Hill United Methodist Church  
All Saints Sunday**

**Bible Study – Mark 12:28-34  
“Spirit Poured Out”**

Open with a word of prayer

**Gathering Time** (5-10 minutes) In groups of two or three, have participants share the story of one person who, though now dead, left a legacy for them of following Christ.

**Mark 12:28-34. Context.** This week's reading is one of a series of encounters that Jesus has with the religious authorities after he enters Jerusalem for the last time. Unlike most of the other encounters, here the scribe affirms Jesus' answer, and Jesus speaks approvingly of his questioner.

**Read Mark 12:28-34**

What touches your heart, what do you hear in the scripture, what questions do you have, or what doesn't make sense to you in the story?

Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

**Read Mark 12:28-34 again.**

**Some reflection questions – Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.**

**Group Dialogue:**

- Why might have this scribe asked Jesus his question?
  - Curiosity
  - Impressed by Jesus
  - Hoped to impress Jesus
  - Hoped to trap Jesus
- What in the scribe's response impressed Jesus?
- Why do you think Jesus replied to the scribe the way he did? Why is Jesus' reply both an affirmation and an invitation for the scribe?
- What might this passage teach us about Jesus? [His focus on embodied love.]
- What might this passage teach us about how we are to live a good life?

### **Closing Reflection Question**

How is this scripture calling you to change, to see, to be or what might it be calling you to do?

**Prayer** (10 minutes). Each person prays sharing their answer the following statements:

I ask God for....

I thank God for.....

**Sending Forth** (2 minutes). After all, have shared, pray the closing prayer. Ask for a volunteer to lead the group or read the following prayer in unison:

Gracious God, your love for us is an invitation into a new way of life. We give you thanks for those who have faithfully followed you and demonstrated the way of Christ's holy love. Empower us to be those who brightly shine the light of God's love through our words and silence, our actions, and our stillness. **Amen.**

And now we pray The Lord's Prayer....

Our Father who art in Heaven

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power

and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.