



LIFE GROUP LEADER DISCUSSION GUIDE

# Trusting the God of the Living

Mark 12:18–27 • Sep 13, 2026 • 35 minutes

**Aim** Understand Jesus' answer about resurrection and learn to trust God's power where our understanding reaches its limits.

## Before you lead

Read Mark 12:13-27. The Sadducees deny resurrection and pose a question about a widow and seven brothers. Keep the discussion anchored in Jesus' answer rather than speculation about heaven. His comparison with angels concerns marriage; he does not say people become angels.

Ask the main questions first. Use the follow-ups when the group needs help going deeper; the leader notes are for your preparation. Give people time to answer, and ask them to point to the verses behind their observations.

**Suggested timing** Welcome, prayer, and reading 4 min • Head 7 min • Heart 12 min • Hands 9 min • Closing prayer 3 min

## HEAD

### Understand the passage

Read Mark 12:18–27 aloud from the ESV. Keep the passage open throughout the discussion.

#### 1. What do the Sadducees assume about resurrection in verses 18-23?

*Follow-up:* What makes their question seem impossible to answer?

*Leader note:* Notice how they imagine the coming life as a continuation of present marriage arrangements.

#### 2. What two things does Jesus say they have misunderstood in verses 24-25?

*Follow-up:* How does his answer challenge the limits they have placed on God?

*Leader note:* Follow Jesus' correction about Scripture and God's power. Let his words set the boundaries of the answer.

#### 3. Why does Jesus bring up God's words to Moses in verses 26-27?

*Follow-up:* What does God's relationship with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob show?

*Leader note:* Jesus grounds resurrection hope in the living God and his continuing relationship with his people.



## HEART

### Examine our motives

Choose a follow-up when it helps someone explain an answer. Allow people to share honestly without pressing them to disclose more than they are ready to share.

#### **4. When has something you could not explain made it hard to trust God?**

*Follow-up:* What did you most want him to explain?

*Leader note:* Welcome honest questions. Asking for help is different from deciding in advance what God can do.

#### **5. How do you respond when Scripture challenges a belief you have held for years?**

*Follow-up:* What makes it hard to reconsider that belief?

*Leader note:* Help people consider a real response: curiosity, defensiveness, avoidance, or willingness to learn.

#### **6. What fears about death or the future come to mind as you read this passage?**

*Follow-up:* What in Jesus' answer speaks to that fear?

*Leader note:* Give grieving people room to speak or remain quiet. Do not pressure them toward a quick resolution.

## HANDS

### Put the passage into practice

#### **7. What question could you take more time to explore in Scripture this week?**

*Follow-up:* Who could help you study it?

*Leader note:* Choose a passage and a time to read. Avoid promising that every question will be resolved immediately.

#### **8. Who could you encourage with the hope you see in this passage?**

*Follow-up:* How could you listen to that person before offering encouragement?

*Leader note:* Make the response personal and gentle, especially with someone facing grief or illness.

### Close in prayer

Thank God that death does not defeat his purposes. Bring him our questions and fears, and ask for humility to receive his Word and courage to trust him.