# The Parable of the Tenants - Mark 12:1-12

Topics: Criticism, Dishonesty, Greed, Mediator, Murder, Possessions, Prophecy, Punishment

### **Open It**

- \* 1. When have you ever been cheated out of something that was rightfully yours?
  - 2. What was your reaction to a time when you were cheated?

### **Explore It**

- 3. How did Jesus get across His point in this situation? (12:1)
- 4. To whom was Jesus speaking? (12:1)
- 5. Why did the man in the parable plant a vineyard? (12:1)
- 6. What happened to the man's vineyard while he was away on a journey? (12:1)
- \* 7. Whom do the farmer, servants, and son in the parable represent? (12:1-6)
- \* 8. Why did the owner of the vineyard send so many servants to the tenants looking after the vineyard? (12:2-5)
  - 9. Who was the last person the owner sent to his vineyard? (12:6)
  - 10. How did the tenants want to cheat the son? (12:7)
- \* 11. How did the tenants treat the owner's son? Why? (12:7-8)
  - 12. What would be the response of the vineyard owner when he discovered how the tenants treated his son? (12:9)
  - 13. What is the significance in Jesus saying that He will fulfill Psalm 118:22-23? (12:10-11)
  - 14. How did the religious leaders respond to the parable Jesus told? (12:12)

#### Get It

- 15. What is the meaning of this parable?
- 16. Who are God's messengers?
- 17. How has God delivered His message to us today?
- \* 18. In what ways is it possible to mistreat the messengers or message God has sent us?
  - 19. How does God want us to treat His message?
  - 20. When have you ever been mistreated because of your faith in Christ?
- \* 21. How can we show respect for the message God has given us?
  - 22. How does Jesus' example encourage you to respond when you are faced with difficult circumstances?
  - 23. How can you be a better steward of the spiritual responsibility God has given you?
  - 24. What can we expect the Lord to do if we try to rob Him of what is rightfully His?
  - 25. How does this passage encourage you to use your gifts and abilities for the Lord's glory?

## **Apply It**

- 26. What is one area of your life that you are holding back from the Lord for fear that He may ask too much of you?
- 27. What step can you take this week to commit yourself completely to the Lord?
- \* 28. What can you do every day this week out of respect for God's Word?