SERMON NOTES

May 24 & 25, 2025

The Power of the Symbol

Matthew 22:15-21

Symbols can	Matthew 22:19&20b
Symbols can	Matthew 22:19a
Symbols can	. Matthew 22:17

Life Steps

The Power of the Symbol | May 26 - June 1, 2025

Monday John 15:13-17

Reflect: As you celebrate Memorial Day, take a moment to thank God for the selfless servants who sacrificed for our freedom. Thank God for the many who followed Jesus' example and gave their lives for others.

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Tuesday Matthew 22:15-21

Reflect: The symbol of the coin created the reality of who held ultimate power for the people of Jerusalem back then. Think about the symbols you hold dear. What do they reveal about what has authority in your life?

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Wednesday Matthew 20:25-28

Reflect: Symbols in our world create categories and hierarchies. But the symbol of Jesus' ministry was to flatten all these structures. In your world, where do you see hierarchies or different categories of people? How many of those categories do you participate in?

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Thursday Matthew 6:24

Reflect: Why do you think the love of money has been such a consistent issue with humanity over the ages? For you, what does money symbolize, what does it really represent to you? And how do you reconcile this honest claim with what Jesus tells us here?

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Friday Romans 12:1-2

Reflect: What does "a living sacrifice" look like to you? Because you bear the image of God, how can you carry that message with you today?

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Saturday Romans 12:18

Reflect: Paul says, "As far as it depends on you..." As you think about what it means to live into the inheritance of freedom, what choices do you need to make today to live at peace with the world around you?

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

Sunday Psalm 63:1-8

Reflect: Remember that you are a symbol of the Almighty Creator. Part of your living sacrifice is to joyfully sing praises to the One who set you free. As you prepare for worship today, read through this passage and keep it with you as a statement of praise!

Prayer: God of life and love, I surrender my will today so that your will may be done through me.

