

Big Idea

Knowing Jesus is Lord in heaven, we don't follow the way of the world—the path of least resistance—but we live as Kingdom people, the path of most persistence.

Introduction: The Joy of Losing

- **Even when we lose, we win.**
 - Key Question: *How do we engage well?*
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Point 1: Our Victory *Mark 12:35–37*

Jesus is not just David's son, but David's Lord. He reigns in heaven forever.

- The teachers of the law had a *small view of the Messiah*—a political king for a worldly kingdom.
- Jesus establishes: **I am the Messiah, I am the King in Heaven.**
This **changes how we engage** as citizens.
→ *Not looking for a political saviour, but trusting the one who reigns forever.*

Application:

- Even as evil is celebrated, we say through tears: *"Somehow, God's got this."*
 - We look to the throne. We see Jesus. Wounded hands, reigning King.
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Point 2: Our Temptation *Mark 12:38–40*

The teachers of the law live for the *power and privilege* of this world.

- They seek the world's glory. They follow the **path of least resistance**.
- This is why we must stay **grounded in the local church**, to keep seeing Jesus rightly.

Application:

- Temptation: To use worldly tactics, or adopt worldly mindsets.
- Question: *How does this reflect my trust in God? His love?*

- The mindset of the Kingdom is always different:
→ We follow the *path of most persistence*.
 - And beware: “These men will be punished most severely.”
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Point 3: Our Faithfulness *Mark 12:41–44*

The widow gave all she had. Jesus saw her faithfulness, not her success.

- It’s not the size of the gift, but the **heart of the giver**.
- Our goal is **faithfulness**, not **earthly success**.

Examples:

- **William Wilberforce**: Known for results, but he was driven by *love of God and neighbour*.
→ *He engaged not to win, but to love.*
- **Tim Farron**: Placed faithfulness to God above political success
→ Not remembered by history, but successful in God’s eyes.

“A politician will never do a good job unless they are willing to lose their job.”

Conclusion: Losing Well, Because We’ve Already Won

Losing well is not a call to retreat—but a call to live out the victory we already have.

- We’ve seen through the series:
 - Jesus is King.
 - His Kingdom overflows into every part of life.
- **Losing well** means:
 - Being willing to stand firm, even when we weep.
 - Trusting that *Christ reigns*, even when we don’t see it.
 - Living with eyes fixed not on earthly banquets—but the heavenly feast.

Challenge Questions:

- What’s one step you could take to engage with government, having given everything to God?
- What’s one step to relationally engage with those in public life?

“Somehow, in some way, God’s got this. For Christ reigns in heaven.”