



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: Honor

Suggested Week of Use: May 3, 2026

Core Passage: Matthew 22:15-22, 34-40

News Story Summary

Memorial Day is the day set aside each year for honoring those who have died in the military. Currently, the holiday is commemorated on the final Monday of May. Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day's origins can be traced as far back as 1865, but it was not made an official federal holiday until 1971. Americans honor veterans' sacrifice by cleaning and decorating graves, lowering flags to half-staff, observing moments of silence, visiting cemeteries or memorials, attending special events, or wearing a red poppy as a symbol of remembrance and respect.

For more about this story, search "Memorial Day 2026."

Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, write "honor" on the board. Encourage adults to share words or ideas they associate with honor. Ask: *Who are some people who have earned our honor?* Share the news story summary related to Memorial Day, noting that we are less than a month away from this year's observance. Affirm that those who have served our country and sacrificed their lives deserve our honor and respect. (Note: If you have veterans in your group, thank them for their service.) Ask: *To whom do we give the highest honor and allegiance?* Show the group a coin and point out that Jesus used a coin to illustrate the importance of showing honor to God and to human authorities. Challenge adults to consider ways they can honor God as they study today's verses.

Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, refer to the news story summary about Memorial Day. Share that more than one million men and women have died in service to our country since the Revolutionary War. Ask: *How can we honor their sacrifice well?* Remind adults that God calls us to honor the living along with the dead. Emphasize Jesus's command to love God and to love those around us. Ask: *What does it look like to love God and love our neighbors today?* Remind the group that love for our neighbor flows from our love for God. Close the session in prayer, asking God to help adults demonstrate a sincere love for God by showing love to a neighbor this week.