

Whose money?

I'm excited;! I'm counting my coins that I have saved up.
I haven't decided just what to buy yet, but it'll be great!

But where did this money come from?

From the piggy bank? From the shop as change? The bank? The person who made the money? Hmmmm.....



Where does money really come from? That's a hard question. And who does it belong to now? That's hard too. It's mine, but if I buy something, then it will go to the shop. Or I could give one of these coins to you, and then it would be yours. Maybe I give it back to the bank...does it belong to the bank? Hmm...

Here's another question: where do YOU come from? Enfield? Or somewhere else? Ultimately, all of us come from God. He created us in His image, His most precious and wonderful masterpiece! We belong to Him, and He is glad to call us His children.

In the reading today, Jesus met some people who tried to trick Him with a question. They asked Him if people should pay taxes.. These church leaders did not like Jesus very much, and they wanted to trap Him, thinking that He might get in trouble if he said that taxes were not important... but if he said that people of God should pay taxes, the Jews might become angry because not everyone liked the Roman government. But Jesus, being the son of God is far more clever.

He got a coin, and asked whose picture was on the coin. The ruler (Caesar) was pictured on the coin. So Jesus pointed out that money could go back to the people in charge of the government, because they were in charge of the state. But Jesus also said "give to God what is God's."

What belongs to God? Everything! We recognise that we can (and must) use some of our money on things like taxes, food, clothes, or whatever else we need to survive. But God isn't just another thing. We give to Him with our money, but we also honour Him by giving our whole lives to Him. We pray; we read our Bibles; and we take care of others. We recognise that He made us, so we belong to Him. Coins and money and taxes are necessary, but those things don't last. Our lives are meant to serve God, because He loves us.

Dear God,
Thank you for making us in your image
Thank you for allowing us to be part of your family
Help us to serve and obey you and give you our whole lives, as they belong to you
Thank you for your love Amen!