

## “Questioned” - Mark 3:20-30

Ask - “Have you ever made an outlandish accusation or been the target of one?”

Background - As Jesus’ fame spread, the crowds grew larger and the physical demands placed upon Him became greater. Also, the voices speaking out against Him grew louder and more hostile.

“Accusations Made” - Mark 3:20-22

(v20) When Jesus returned to Capernaum, what happened? How large was the crowd and how did it affect Jesus and His disciples?

(v21) When they saw Jesus continuing to teach without having eaten or gotten any rest, what did His friends and relatives do? What did they say about Jesus?

(v22) To a harsher degree, what accusation did the scribes from Jerusalem make about Him? To whom did they credit Jesus’ ability to cast out demons?

JESUS CONTINUED PREACHING AND HEALING DESPITE A LACK OF FOOD AND REST. HIS OWN FAMILY AND FRIENDS WERE CONCERNED. MEANWHILE, HIS ENEMIES CLAIMED HE WAS POSSESSED BY SATAN,

“Accusations Debunked” - Mark 3:23-27

(v23) In the face of this accusation, what question did Jesus ask of the crowd?

(v24-26) What rationale did Jesus use to answer His own question? Why can’t a house divided against itself stand? Discuss.

(v27) In this brief parable who is the strong man and who binds the strong man in order to plunder Him? Explain what the parable means.

IT IS FOOLISH TO THINK THAT JESUS WOULD BE CASTING OUT DEMONS BY THE POWER OF SATAN. WHY WOULD SATAN DO SUCH A THING? RATHER, JESUS CASTS THEM OUT BECAUSE HE IS MORE POWERFUL THAN SATAN.

“The Unpardonable Sin” - Mark 3:28-30

(v28) This verse alone is good news. What sins would be forgiven? What is the sin of blasphemy?

(v29) What is the 1 sin that will never be forgiven (the unpardonable sin)? What does it mean today for someone to blaspheme the Holy Spirit?

(v30) What specifically were these scribes and Pharisees accusing Jesus of?  
Who were they claiming the Holy Spirit to be?

THOSE WHO DEFINITELY AND CONTINUOUSLY DENY THE SAVING  
POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL DIE IN THEIR SINS.

Application - By this point, even Jesus' own family was beginning to think that He was losing it. They didn't yet grasp His true identity. The scribes were openly accusing Jesus of being demon possessed. They slandered the Holy Spirit through which Jesus demonstrated His power by asserting that He was a demon. Jesus would not tolerate such wickedness and taught that blasphemy against the Holy Spirit would never be forgiven. What part of today's lesson stands out to you?