

Jesus and Beelzebub—[Mark 3:20–30](#)

Topics:

Blasphemy, Church, Demons, Divisions, Forgiveness, Holy Spirit, Sacrifice, Satan, Sin, Unity

Open It

1. *In your experience, when has faithfulness to a cause or person led to conflict with others?
2. In what situations or settings can unity be important?

Explore It

1. What was the problem at the onset of this story? ([3:20](#))
2. Who tried to solve Jesus' dilemma? Why? ([3:21](#))
3. *What did Jesus' family think of Him? ([3:21](#))
4. Where had Jesus' detractors come from? ([3:21–22](#))
5. *Besides Jesus' own family, who else found fault with Him? ([3:22](#))
6. How did the teachers of the law try to explain Jesus' behavior? ([3:22](#))
7. *How did Jesus refute His opponents' accusation that He was possessed by the devil? ([3:23–27](#))

8. What does Jesus' speech about a "kingdom divided" tell us about the kingdom of God? ([3:24–26](#))
9. Who was the "strong man" of whom Jesus spoke? ([3:27](#))
10. Who was the "robber"? ([3:27](#))
11. What was the "blasphemy of the Holy Spirit" of which Jesus spoke? ([3:29–30](#))
12. Why is blasphemy of the Holy Spirit uniquely worthy of divine judgment? ([3:29–30](#))

Get It

1. Why do you think Jesus' family thought He was "out of his mind"?
2. In light of this passage, what do we fight against?
3. Why do you think Jesus chose to speak to His audience in parables?
4. What difference does it make in your life to know that Jesus has authority over all the evil powers of this world?
5. What is the true significance of Jesus' ministry of casting out demons?
6. *Why is unity among Christians so important?
7. In what ways can we strengthen the unity of the church?

8. *In what ways can you strengthen your local fellowship or church?
9. What can a believer do to guard against disunity in the church?
10. What can we do to avoid committing the “unforgivable sin”?
11. When, if ever, have you been thought of as “out of your mind” by other people because of your efforts to live a Christian life?
12. How should Christians respond to conflict with other people, both non-Christians and believers, in light of Jesus’ example?
13. What has following Jesus cost you?

Apply It

1. What can you do over the next few days to restore a relationship that strains your unity with other Christians?
2. *What is one step you can take this week to strengthen the unity of your local church?