

## Mark 3:22-30 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” <sup>23</sup> And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. <sup>27</sup> But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

<sup>28</sup> “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, <sup>29</sup> but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—  
<sup>30</sup> for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

---

1. When have you been accused of something wrong? How did you respond?
2. Why do you think the scribes concluded that Jesus was possessed by Beelzebul rather than empowered by God (verse 22)?
3. How is Jesus viewed in our culture today? How can Christians respond when we hear descriptions of Jesus that are untrue?

