

What attitudes should be conveyed as we answer people with our reasons for hope (3:15)?

How might we be tempted to respond?

What outcome should we pray for by responding with a clear conscience (3:16)?

### **Get It**

How can we revere Christ as Lord in our hearts? What does such reverence look like?

What are the questions that unchurched neighbors, coworkers, family members or friends have about devoted Christ-followers?

What's a reason for your hope in Christ that could be shared with someone who asks?

### **Live It**

Who do you know that needs a reason for hope in Christ? Pray for them regularly this week. And, if God gives you an opportunity share your reason for hope in Christ.

Studies in the Gospel of Mark  
*"Jesus Serves Despite Opposition"*  
Mark 2:13 - 3:34  
Sunday, January 27, 2019

### **Sermon Sentence**

Jesus serves people in the face of increasing opposition by responding with hope-filled answers.

### **Jesus Answers Those Who Raise the Question**

*"Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"*

Mark 2:16 (NIV)

### **Jesus Answers Those Who Raise the Question**

*"How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"*

Mark 2:18 (NIV)

### Jesus Answers Those Who Raise the Question

*"Why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"*

Mark 2:24 (NIV)

### Jesus Answers Those Who Raise the Question

*"He is out of his mind."*

Mark 3:21 (NIV)

### Jesus Answers Those Who Raise the Question

*"He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."*

Mark 3:22 (NIV)

Discussion Guide  
*"Serve in the Face of Opposition"*  
1 Peter 3:13-17

*Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.*

1 Peter 3:13–17 (NIV)

#### Open It

Who is the most hope-filled person that you know? What distinguishes them as hope-filled?

#### Study It

What encouragement does Peter offer believers who are suffering ridicule, threats, or slander (3:13,14,17)?

How does Peter instruct us NOT to respond to opposition (3:14)?

In contrast, how are Christ-followers commanded to respond (3:15)?