



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
R O C H E S T E R

**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
**September 1, 2024**

**Refresh**

Read 1 Peter 3:13-17 to get the Scripture passages back in your mind.

**Discuss**

Has there been a time in your life when you have had the privilege of defending the gospel? What were the circumstances of the situation? What did God teach you in that experience?

While Scripture gives us some dramatic examples of what it looks like to defend the gospel, what does defending the gospel typically look like in the life of a Christian? What are the ways that we can defend the gospel in our lives daily?

Why do you think Christians are often tempted to shrink away from defending the gospel? How can we overcome that temptation in our lives?

Spend some time reflecting on why the gospel is worth defending. What happens if we lose the gospel? How does this inform us of the urgency of protecting the gospel?

Why is it critical that our defense of the gospel is done with “gentleness and respect”? Why might this be a far more effective approach to winning people rather than meeting them with aggression and anger?

In what ways do we see gentleness in the life and ministry of Jesus? Take some time rehearsing the Savior’s gentleness and kindness he showed during His time on earth.

How does reflecting on the life of Jesus compel us to live with gentleness and respect for those around us? How can we keep the example of Jesus at the forefront of our hearts and minds this week?