



Week 5

Sermon Series: Lessons from the Sinless Savior

Sermon Title: Learn to Enjoy New Wine

Sermon Text: Luke 5:33-38

Group Week of: August 13, 2023

Sermon Date: August 20, 2023

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Mark's Account – Mark 2:18-22
Day 2	Released from the Law – Romans 7:1-6
Day 3	Old Law Purpose – Galatians 3:15-29
Day 4	Freedom in Christ – Galatians 5:1-12
Day 5	Using Freedom – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

The Text

- 1) **Read** the text slowly and carefully.
- 2) **Pray** for understanding, insight, and transformation.
- 3) **Observe Everything.** Use pens and highlighters to mark the text. Come up with your own system of symbols, underlines, arrows, highlights, and notes that will *help you understand and apply*. Only do what is helpful.
- 4) **Answer** the interpretive questions at the bottom.

³⁶ He told them this parable: “No one tears a piece out of a new garment to patch an old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. ³⁷ And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. ³⁸ No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. ³⁹ And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, ‘The old is better.’”

Textual Questions

- 1) Read verses 33-35 to gain the context for this parable. Then explain the Pharisees' complaint.
- 2) What is (are) the main lesson (lessons) that you see God teaching through Luke in this passage?
- 3) What do “wine” and “wineskins” represent in this parable?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) What is something that you see commonly done in the church today that you aren't a big fan of and wish it could go back to the way it used to be?

- 2) Why do you wish things could go back to the way they were before? Is it a matter of preference, or does it go deeper than that?

- 3) The "new wine" in this parable represents the New Covenant—the gospel; and the "new wineskin" is the royal law of love— "Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbor as Christ has loved you." Aside from the command to love, we've been given freedom from the old customs (old wineskin) of the Old Covenant (old wine). No longer are Christians bound to the festivals, clothing, and dietary laws we see in the Old Covenant. Why, in the New Covenant, are we given such freedom from the law? Why does God give us that freedom today but not to Israel then?

- 4) Read 1 Corinthians 11:19-23 and explain, in your own words, how Paul makes use of the new wineskins (our freedom in Christ) and how this would not work under the old wineskins (Old Covenant law and custom).

- 5) The catalyst for this teaching was that Jesus' disciples were not fasting. In the new wine and wineskins in which we now live, how does fasting fit in? Consider the following—Is it mandatory or customary? Is it a lament or a seeking of God's will? What differentiates it from Old Covenant customs?

- 6) To fit the gospel into the customs of the law would only lead to failure. Therefore, God gave us freedom to love Him and others in any circumstance. How can you use your freedom in Christ to bring the gospel to someone whose customs are very different than your own? You can apply this to a missionary context if it helps to think of an answer.

- 7) Sometimes we forget that we have the new wineskins and get frustrated by change in the church. We, as Jesus pointed out, often say, "the old is better." Review your answers to questions 1 and 2. Does the new wineskin give you the ability to embrace the new? Or are the changes you see something to resist as a sinful intrusion into the church? Evaluate and discuss your answer with your life group, and pray for God to grant grace, wisdom, and courage as it is needed.