

The Unique Gospel Luke 5:33-39

- I. Trying to mix Jesus & "man-made" religious commandments, can never work.
- II. Trying to drink in what Jesus teaches while drinking in "man-made" teachings will never honor God or satisfy the heart.
- III. Those who desire "man-made" teachings have no taste for a Spirit-led life.

John 7:37-39

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For the *love of Christ* controls us....so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

...having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the *fear of God*.

2 Corinthians 7:1

- A. In Christ, we have freedom from the judgment of sin, the bondage of sin & from man-made commandments.
- B. Our motivations to live a life pleasing to God are love & reverence not fear, punishment or obligation.

Questions for this week:

I. For Starters:

1. When people tend not to be open to new ideas or ways of doing things, what can happen because of this unbending stance?
2. Are you a person who often resists change? Explain your answer.
3. What "man-made" religious teaching did you grow up with that you are glad you shed as you got older?

II. Overview of Scripture

1. Read Luke 5:29-39 out loud as a group. What is the main point of the passage?
2. Who is asking Jesus about fasting and what are they after? (33)
3. What other groups were Jesus' disciples compared? What are the Pharisees doing by comparing Jesus and his disciples to others? (33)
4. How did Jesus identify Himself in verse 34? How is this different from verse 31?
5. What event will soon cause Jesus' disciples to fast? (35)
6. Describe in your own words what Jesus is saying in verse 36.
7. How does Jesus answer address the question of the Pharisees?
8. Why is the new better than the old? (see Hebrews 12:18-24)
9. What does Jesus want us to know with His illustration about new and old wineskins? (37-38)
10. Why doesn't someone want new wine when they are drinking old wine? (39)

III. Growing Deeper

1. Review Sunday's message with someone.
2. Have you spoken with anyone lately who enjoys the old wine of man-made traditions? What did you notice?
3. Describe the difference as you see it---between the Spirit-led life and a life based on religious rules and man-made traditions.
4. Pray for one another and others who come to your mind.