



The Gospel of Mark – Carriers of the New Wine Pastor Dave Patterson 05.05.2024

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Mark 2:13-22]

¹³ Then Jesus went out to the lakeshore again and taught the crowds that were coming to him. ¹⁴ As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Levi got up and followed him ¹⁵ Later, Levi invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. There were many people of this kind among Jesus' followers. ¹⁶ But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with such scum?" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." ¹⁸ Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came to Jesus and asked, "Why don't your disciples fast like John's disciples and the Pharisees do?"

¹⁹ Jesus replied, "Do wedding guests fast while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. They can't fast while the groom is with them. ²⁰ But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. ²¹ "Besides, who would patch old clothing with new cloth? For the new patch would shrink and rip away from the old cloth, leaving an even bigger tear than before. ²² "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the wine would burst the wineskins, and the wine and the skins would both be lost. New wine calls for new wineskins."

[2 Corinthians 5:17]

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

[Mark 2:17]

"Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

[Mark 2:19-20]

¹⁹ "Do wedding guests fast while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. They can't fast while the groom is with them. ²⁰ But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

How to carry the "new wine"

1. Guard your heart.

[Proverbs 4:23]

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

How to carry the new wine:

2. Do not harden your heart (resisting conviction).

[Hebrews 3:15]

Remember what it says: "Today, if you hear His voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled."

How to carry the new wine:

3. Go through the process of softening a calcified heart.

4. Ask the Lord to give you a new heart.

[Ezekiel 36:26-27]

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow me.

[Psalm 51:10-11]

¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Key Points:

1. Guard your heart.
2. Do not harden your heart (resisting conviction).
3. Go through the process of softening a calcified heart.
4. Ask the Lord to give you a new heart.

Applications for the Week:

Take this week and ask God to give you a new heart so that your capacity to forgive and love others will grow. Each day this week, pray Psalm 51:10-11 over your life and see what He will do.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean or look like to transform something?
2. In the Bible, why does Jesus change the name of some of His disciples?
3. Why do you think that Jesus called people to belong, join, or follow Him before they behaved or were transformed?
4. What are some new things that God is doing in your life? In other words, where is the "new wine?"
5. When Jesus interacted with sinners, why didn't He spend time condemning their lifestyles?
6. What kind of people sit at your table? Who is God calling you to spend time with, just like Jesus did?
7. What does the condition of your heart need to be to carry new wine?
8. How can we develop a soft and pliable heart?
9. What are the reasons we cannot pour new wine into old wineskins? How is a calloused heart a similar stopgap?
10. What miracles are you contending for right now?