

# Conflict Over Jesus' Disciples Not Fasting

Scripture: **Luke 5:33-39**

Series: **The Gospel of Luke**

Sunday, August 20, 2017



**REDEEMER**  
FELLOWSHIP

## Overview

Jesus disciples did not fast like the disciples of John the Baptist or the Pharisees. As Messiah, they knew Jesus wasn't an additive to their religious establishment. In him was an all encompassing new reality. **The truth and way of Jesus will call you to renounce your old ways of thinking and doing.**

## Corroborating Texts

Exodus 20:3; I Kings 18:21; Matthew 6:24; I Corinthians 6:9-11; Romans 12:2; Luke 9:23, 14:26; Philippians 4:4; James 1:2; Romans 14:17; Revelation 21; I Corinthians 10:14ff

## Discussion Questions

1. Why were people questioning Jesus and his disciples about their lack of fasting? Why is it significant that Jesus uses the analogy of a wedding and bridegroom in his response?
2. Read and review the parables that Jesus gives in response to his critics. What is the basic meaning of the cloth and wineskins? Why can't you put the new with the old?
3. Why doesn't it work to merely *add* Jesus to your existing religious establishment? How did some people try to do so in Jesus' day? How do some people do this in the present day?
4. Review Paul's thoughts from I Corinthians 6:9ff. What sort of "old ways" are we tempted to accommodate and allow as if they could exist along with our new identity?
5. We read from Revelation 21 in our closing worship. Consider the word picture from that passage. What happens if you try to use Jesus as a nice add-on to your life? What if you renounce your old ways and receive Jesus as the all-encompassing, new reality?
6. Think about your journey of faith. What are some practical ways we can renounce that which is habitual and sinful?
7. Why is it important that we recognize our new identity in Christ? What is at risk if we don't?
8. We read from I Corinthians 10:14-17 in preparation for communion. Reread this passage. How can participating in communion help us re-identify with Christ?
9. The Christian life is now characterized by joy in a way that wasn't true before Christ's life, death, and resurrection. How is this expressed in your life? What are some ways this joy can be expressed in your community group?