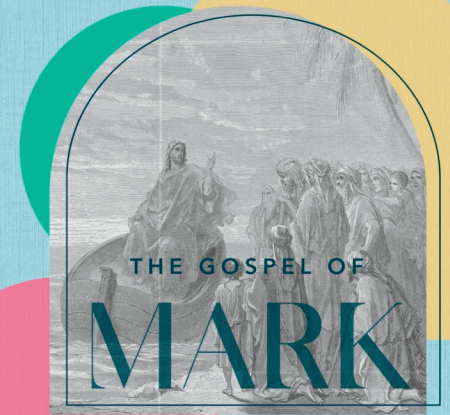


August 6, 2023

NEW BEGINNINGS

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 2:13-22



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



13 And He went out again by the seashore; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them. 14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him. 15 And it happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him. 16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners?" 17 And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners." 18 John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" 19 And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom is with them, the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. 21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. 22 No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."



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REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?

- What's a time in your life when you experienced the freshness of a new beginning?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

GROW IN THE WORD

- 01.** Jesus continued to minister to multitudes and called another disciple named Levi (known as Matthew) to follow him. Levi, a tax-collector, followed Jesus and hosted many in his home for a dinner party one evening. The religious leaders saw who attended and criticized Jesus for dining with sinners. Jesus replied and restated his mission (v. 13-17).
 - How would you rephrase Jesus' reply to the Pharisees in verse 17? What did Jesus mean? See Luke 18:9-15.

GROW IN THE WORD

- How does this story reveal Jesus' heart for those that the religious leaders considered to be the sinners of society? See Luke 15:8-10; 19:10.

- In what ways does Jesus' response to the Pharisees challenge our own attitudes towards those we might consider undeserving of God's love and grace?

02. The religious leaders questioned Jesus about the behavior of his disciples asking why they did not fast like others did. Jesus responded using three analogies: 1) the bridegroom and his attendees; 2) patching old garments with new cloth; and 3) pouring new wine into old wineskins. Mark did not record a reply from the religious leaders (v. 18-22).

- What main point was Jesus trying to communicate through his use of these analogies? See Genesis 3:21; Isaiah 61:10; Hebrews 8:7-13.



GROW IN THE WORD

- How can we ensure that our religious traditions and activities do not supersede the spiritual life that Jesus calls his followers to pursue? Consider Galatians 5:6.

- How do you want your thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and actions to change in light of this passage?

UPCOMING EVENTS

ON MISSION: AUGUST 12

Evangelism Training | 9 am - 12 pm

Join us downtown for a morning of evangelism training and then go out and use what we've learned! Learn more and register for this event on our website or mobile app.



DISCOVERING WAYSIDE: AUGUST 13

10:45 am | Fellowship Hall

If you are interested in learning more about Wayside or how you can take the next step toward membership, we'd love to have you join us for this class! Lunch is provided with registration by August 8.

