

Jesus Came to Bring Joy & New Life

Mark 2: 18-22

Read Mark 2:18-22 Together:

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. And people 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, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. ²⁰ 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 piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. ²² And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins."

Main Point: Jesus came to bring joy and new life.

- ? When you think of fasting, what comes to mind?
- ? When you think of a wedding, what comes to mind?
- ? Look at verse 20. What do you think Jesus is referring to here?
- ? What do the images in verses 21-22 illustrate about Jesus' coming and the new design for how God's people will live?

Application:

- ? Is there old "stuff" in your life that's holding you back when God is asking you to move forward?
- ? What rules are you clinging to that are holding you back from freedom in Christ?
- ? What area in your life needs renewal and joy?

This week, choose one of the action steps below to bring renewal and joy to your spiritual life. Share with the group which action you'll take and how you'll plan for accountability.

- Memorize Romans 12:2.
- Meditate on Ephesians 1.