

Made New

MAIN THING

Jesus doesn't call us to behavior modification; He calls us to a whole new life

SCRIPTURE

Luke 5:33-39, Luke 14:26-27, Romans 2:24, Psalm 145:17-19, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:22-24

ICEBREAKER

A weird fact that I know for no particular reason is

OPENING THOUGHT

The call of Christ isn't one to "do things better" or "make a few changes." Jesus doesn't call us to behavior modification. He calls us to die to ourselves, to our old way of doing things, to our beliefs and opinions and lifestyles and everything else and to be totally made new. Far too many people are looking for the "Jesus who can do it cheaper" to add a thing or two to life without having to change much. Jesus corrects that narrative in this passage by saying we must be "new wineskins" before He can fill us with His "new wine."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was the one thing that you heard this past Sunday that stuck out to you? Why did it resonate with you like it did?

2. What has been the result of people being unwilling to be made new- to become new wineskins- and instead seeking out the "Jesus who can do it cheaper"? Be specific.

3. In the sermon, the questions "There is someone in my life who encourages me to grow spiritually," and "There is someone in my life who challenges me to follow Jesus more passionately than I ever thought possible" were asked to people under age 35. How would you answer this question? Now let's flip the question around, "I have someone in my life that I am encouraging to grow spiritually," and "I have someone in my life that I am challenging to follow Jesus more passionately than they ever thought possible."

LIFE APPLICATION

We are seeing more and more compromise in churches where there is no emphasis on being made new. We are seeing very little calls to die to self; rather, churches and pastors aren't calling people to die to anything at all. Instead, an increasing number of church leaders are simply affirming people where they are, keeping the old wineskin, keeping the same identity, the same beliefs, the same everything. This is not the message of Jesus. He calls us to be completely made new, to put off the old self, to be made new in the attitude of our minds, and put on the new self created to be like God. Anything less than that is not the Christian faith. It's the gospel of the Jesus who can do it cheaper.

CHALLENGE

What commitments do you need to make now that will bring purpose and will produce fruit that will actually matter?