

Taking it Deeper - Discussion Notes
Enemy of the Old
Mark 2:18 – 3:6
AGIF 6 January 2019

Sunday Summary – Jesus was doing a new thing. He was not giving more rules or reforming an old religion system but He was bringing the kingdom.

Intro question: When was the last time you did something new and what was it?

Read: Mark 2:18-3:6

Jesus was doing His best to show the Scribes and Pharisees that old structures were not going to be able to hold the new way of His Kingdom. The new wine would not fit into an old framework.

How did He demonstrate His kingdom?

Jesus was not anti-rest, but He was against not loving and helping people due to the man made rules that the Pharisees had added to Jewish religion. Do you find time each week to enjoy (Sabbath) time that refreshes and replenishes you? Can you share with the group some of these practices?

Instead of embracing the new wine, the Pharisees plotted to kill Jesus. Take time to reflect on some of their attitudes:

- a) Achieves self righteousness by obeying rules
- b) Spend more time talking about what you are against, not what you are for
- c) Have appearance of perfection but neglect the motives of the heart
- d) Judgmental of those who are weak
- e) On the lookout for faults in every situation but don't appreciate the beauty all around you
- f) Don't eat or drink with people far from God
- g) The rule is more important than the person
- h) A certain lifestyle is required in order to be accepted

In the quiet prayer, ask God to cleanse you of any of these that may be in your heart. Ask Him to help you to keep your heart open to the new paths and ways He wants to lead you in and grow you in during 2019.

We may be disappointed if Jesus comes in a way that we don't expect Him to or we may be in danger of stagnating if we try and 'box' him in. No matter how long or short we have been a follower of Jesus, let's keep our hearts open to learning more and embracing the new wine more than any man made structure.