

MATTHEW

March 20, 2022

Matthew 9:14-17

READ

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Mark 2:18-22

Luke 5:33-39

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. A question about fasting is raised (v. 14). Why would the disciples of John fast?

Why would the Pharisees and their disciples fast?

What is the emotion or attitude behind fasting? What drives it?

2. Who is the “bridegroom” (v. 15)? Who are the “attendants of the bridegroom”?

What does this suggest? (Why can't they mourn? What is the emotion or attitude suggested?)

3. When will the attendants of the bridegroom fast? What changes?

4. What is the problem with a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment (v. 16)?

How does Luke's account further describe the problem (5:36)?

How does this apply to Jesus?

5. What is the problem with new wine in old wineskins (v. 17)? (Do you understand what is behind the metaphor?)

How does this apply to Jesus? Consider these verses:

- 1 Corinthians 11:25 (Hebrews 8:8,13)
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- John 3:7

6. How can the old (way of John or the Pharisees; the way of law) be an obstacle to Christ (Luke 5:39)?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will proceed in joy this week by . . .

I will live in grace this week by . . .