

Sermon Discussion Guide for small groups, families, and individuals

"Luke: Redeeming Relationship and Ritual"

Luke 5: 27-39

November 15-16, 2014

For Starters

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or raised questions?
2. What church or religious "traditions" help you follow Christ? What traditions or practices hinder you as a Christ follower?

Digging In

1. Read verses 27-28. Tax collectors were despised in Palestine during this time - so why might Jesus invite Levi to follow him?
2. How is Levi's action similar to Simon's action earlier in verse 11? How are they different?
3. Who is present at Levi's party for Jesus? What do you notice about the guests?
4. The Pharisees thought that dining with people for an extended time would make one ceremonially "unclean". How does Jesus' response to their thinking show that a new day has come?
5. Read verse 33. Why might the Pharisees be so concerned about fasting?
6. What does Jesus' reply indicate what he thinks about fasting?
7. Read verses 36-39. How does the parable of the "new" and the "old" things help explain Jesus' purpose and mission?
8. Why did the Pharisees like the old things?

Bringing It Home

1. Jesus interaction with the Pharisees in this text turns their religious understanding upside down. How might you be like a Pharisee? What are some ways that Jesus' teachings have changed how you see the world? What are some areas of your life that you sense God is working on right now?
2. How is your idea of the Kingdom of God influenced by the images of the Kingdom in this passage? What difference might that make for how you live?

Digging Deeper

Spend time praying for opportunities this week to point people in your life towards Jesus through both your words and deeds.

Belonging to a small group is a great way to grow spiritually. If you would like to join a group or get more information, contact Deb at dmiller@doorcreekchurch.org.

Adopt-a-teacher tip of the week#5: Cold and flu season is coming! Buy some hand sanitizer and Kleenex for your teacher's classroom to help keep everyone healthy - and don't forget to pray! Haven't adopted a teacher yet? Contact Karrah for more information at kmesser@doorcreekchurch.org