



Feasting and Fasting Luke 5:27-39

Something to Start Us Off

- Can you tell us about a personal experience with either feasting or fasting that stands out to you?

Something to Notice

- Who is it that is grumbling and questioning Jesus about his and his disciples' behavior?
- Jesus describes himself using two different figures of speech (See vv. 31 and 34-35). What are they?

Something to Understand

Jewish tax collectors were perceived as traitors because they served the Romans. Most Jews resented Roman rule, so the tax collectors were perceived as collaborators with the occupying power.

Ancient wineskins were made of goatskins, a leatherlike product. When fresh wine was put in a new skin the fermentation would stretch the skin, much like breaking in new shoes. Skins were then hard to reuse since they were already stretched out by the first batch of new wine.

- Jesus was obviously able to mingle with all kinds of people. In what ways would you say that sets an example for us?
- How would you explain the point Jesus is making with the new/old cloth and the new/old wineskins?
- What does v.35 tell us about fasting and the disciples of Jesus at the present time?

Something to Take Home

- Try to make a one-sentence comment pertaining to something that should characterize the behavior of Christians based on this section of Luke 5.
- Is there anything else from this look at Luke 5:27-39 that you especially want to remember for future reference? Can you explain why?