

MESSAGE NOTES

October 02, 2011

THURSDAY

Reread Mark 2:18–22. What do Jesus' illustrations of a patch and a new wineskin have in common? The image of "new wine" runs through the Old Testament prophets (e.g., Jeremiah 31:10–14), pointing to the new covenant in Jesus Christ. How do the patch and wineskin metaphors help us further understand His view on fasting? How does Matthew 26:26–29 reinforce Jesus' ultimate desire for those who follow Him as expressed in His response to the Pharisees?

FRIDAY

Read Mark 2:23–3:6. What is the significance of the Sabbath in Jewish culture and why did the Pharisees have such a strong reaction to the actions of Jesus and His disciples (see Exodus 20:1–11)? What is the overarching principle of the Sabbath that Jesus reveals in Mark 2:27–28? How should this principle instruct our view of the Sabbath as new covenant Christians?

WEEKEND

Read Mark 3:1–6. Contrast the source of Jesus' anger with that of the other men in the synagogue. What does this account reveal about the difference between Jesus' priorities and the priorities of the Pharisees? In what ways do religion and tradition sidetrack you from Jesus' core message? How does Jesus' radical love for you both free you and empower you to express radical love for other people?

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A three-hole punch is available in the Library for those who keep these in a notebook.

His Radicalism, Our Hope

#4 The Reason for Hope Series

Mark 2:14-3:6

The Physician, Mark 2:14-17

The Bridegroom, Mark 2:18-22



The Lord of the Sabbath, Mark 2:23-3:6

October 3-8, 2011

MONDAY

Read Mark 2:14-17. Why do you think Matthew followed Jesus? Why did Jesus refuse to pursue the righteous? What does Jesus' statement in v. 17 reveal about God? When you compare yourself to others, do you see yourself as healthy and righteous or sick and sinful? On what basis do you make your evaluation?

TUESDAY

Read the parallel account in Luke 5:27-32. What was the significance of the party that Matthew threw? Why did the Pharisees and scribes grumble when they saw the guest list? How can you follow Matthew's example to expose your friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors to Jesus?

WEDNESDAY

Read Mark 2:18-22. What three metaphors does Jesus use to respond to the Pharisees' question about fasting? How does the first metaphor help illustrate His view? What claim was Jesus making in describing Himself as the bridegroom? (See Isaiah 62:5.)

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