

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: June 30, 2024

Text: Mark 2:18-22

Title: Fasting or Feasting?

Big Idea: Jesus is the bridegroom who brings gladness not sadness.



I. JESUS IS THE BRIDEGROOM WHO BRINGS GLADNESS NOT SADNESS (2:18-22)

A. The question (2:18)

“Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?”

B. Jesus' response (2:19-22)

1. Wedding guests do not fast while the bridegroom is with them (2:19–20)

“Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.”

“Life is not supposed to be a funeral!” Jesus told them. “God wants life to be a wedding feast! I am the Bridegroom and these people are My wedding guests. Are not wedding guests supposed to have a good time?” – Warren Wiersbe

2. No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment (2:21)

“No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made.”

3. No one puts new wine into old wineskins (2:22)

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins.”

II. CONCLUSION/APPLICATION

“The time for God’s people to mourn is over...Instead, one ought to rejoice that the bridegroom has come and is coming again, and has left us his Spirit in the meantime, that we might ‘rejoice always.’” – Dr. Chad Hardy

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Mark 2:18-22

Is there anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?

Where is Christ in this passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Christ? Luke 24:44 says all of Scripture is about Christ. So, how does this passage help you see more of who Christ is, what He has done, or allows you to love Him more?

In your own words, why didn't Jesus' disciples fast?

How does the image of a bridegroom turn their assumptions upside down? (2:19)

What is Jesus claiming about himself? (compare Isaiah 62:4-5)

To what does Jesus refer when He says the bridegroom will be taken away? (2:20)

Where does this leave us? Should we celebrate because the bridegroom is here, fast because He is gone, or both?

Is there any way that you are living as though the Saviour has not yet arrived?

PRAY