

The Gospel of Mark
Newness Requires Change
Mark 2:18-22

Winston Churchill said, “There is nothing wrong with change if it is in the right direction.” While most of us would agree with that statement, we still fear change. We fear the unknowns that are always associated with change. And sometimes the change isn’t in the right direction. Change for the sake of change isn’t necessarily good, but the reality is that things change. In fact the philosopher Heraclitus said, “There is nothing permanent in life except change.”

1. The bridegroom will be completely celebrated.
2. The kingdom will be completely new.
3. The creation will be completely changed.

Right now, we only get glimpses of the kingdom as we anticipate the return of Jesus. But Jesus allows those glimpses to provide newness in our walk with Him every day. He restores and renews our spiritual health. He challenges our way of thinking. He gives us an adventure if we respond to His call.

For further reflection:

Some Pharisees fasted to show they were deeply concerned about spiritual matters. How is this commendable? How were they mistaken? Some people fast to earn God’s favor or to get Him to act on their behalf. How is that a mistake? What would it look like for us to celebrate with the living bridegroom? How does rejoicing in our life with a living Savior fit in with fasting and praying for Jesus’ return? How is our life before Jesus like an old garment that cannot be merely patched up? How is our relationship with God in Christ like new wine that cannot be contained within our old way of life?