

Go Deep

Luke 5:33-39

1. How “open-minded” should a Christian be about the important things in life? What keeps us from being willing to change our minds about things?
2. Why is change necessary for spiritual growth? What is the relationship between repentance and change?
3. *Read Luke 5:33-39.* Why did the Pharisees bring up the practice of fasting in this context?
4. Did the Pharisees and other Jews have a good reason for fasting twice a week?
5. Why do Jesus and the Old Testament prophets critique the practice of fasting? (See Matthew 6:16-18; Isaiah 58:1-9).
6. *Read 5:34.* Why does Jesus respond to a question about fasting like this?
7. Why does Jesus often use wedding imagery in his parables and teachings?
8. *Read 5:35.* When will the “bridegroom” be taken up? Why will the disciples fast then? What is the purpose of their fast?
9. Is it a good idea for Christians to fast regularly? What is the value of fasting? Are there any dangers to fasting?
10. *Read 5:36.* What is the “old garment” in this parable? What is the “new garment”? What is the hole in the “old garment? Who is the one sewing? What would it look like to rip a patch from the new to fix the old?
11. How does this parable apply to us today?
12. *Read 5:37-38.* What is the “new wine”? What is the “new wineskin”? How is this parable similar to the last one? How is it different? What new meaning is Jesus giving us from this parable?
13. How does this parable apply to us today?
14. *Read 5:39.* What is the “old wine” that people are drinking? Why won’t they even try the new?
15. How does this parable apply to us today?