

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. **Proverbs 16:9**

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long. **Psalms 25:4, 5**

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TEXT: LUKE 5:36-39

TITLE: DESIRE TO BE FASHIONABLE AND FLEXIBLE

INTRODUCTION

- A. The older I get, the less I am trying to do new and/or different things. However...
- B. The human tendency is to reject what is new and/or different

JESUS WAS A PROGRESSIVE THINKER

- A. What progressive thinking is not
 - 1. Bringing old thinking to a new environment is not progressive thinking
 - 2. Bringing borrowed thinking to a new environment is not progressive thinking
 - 3. Forcing new thinking into old systems and structures is not progressive thinking
- B. What progressive thinking is. Thinking the way that God thinks
 - 1. ¹⁶ For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ. **1 Corinthians 2:16**
 - 2. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. **John 15:15**
- C. Examples of Jesus' progressive thinking
 - 1. Jesus touched a man who was covered with leprosy
 - 2. Jesus called a tax collector (Levi) to be a disciple
 - 3. Jesus went to Levi's house and fellowshiped with tax collectors and sinners
 - 4. Jesus' disciples ate and drank while the disciples of John the Baptist and the Pharisees fasted
- D. Are you a progressive thinker?
- E. Progressive Thinking encourages: New Opportunities, New Possibilities and New Expectations

OLD OR NEW, NOT OLD AND NEW: TWO ILLUSTRATIONS

- A. Putting cloth from a new garment onto an old garment
 - 1. Problem #1: Damage / Destruction to the New Garment – it has a hole in it
 - 2. Problem #2: Damage / Destruction to the Old Garment – the patch does not match
 - 3. Point for Jesus: You cannot take the progressive thinking of the Gospel and sew it into the old, worn, faded thinking of tradition and ritual. Both will be damaged / destroyed.
 - 4. Expanded Point: Old and New do not work. Just wear the new clothes
- B. Putting new wine into old wineskins
 - 1. Problem #1: Loss / Waste of the Old Wineskin – it will burst
 - 2. Problem #2: Loss / Waste of the New Wine – it is spilled onto the ground
 - 3. Point for Jesus: You cannot take the progressive thinking of the Gospel and pour it into the old, rigid, inflexible thinking of tradition and ritual. Both will be lost / wasted.
 - 4. Expanded Point: Old and New do not work. Just use the new wineskins
- C. Jesus understood that it is not easy
 - 1. ³⁹ And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is [good].'
 - 2. Therefore, desire to be fashionable and flexible