

## **STUDY GUIDE: PARABLE:**

### **“The New and the Old” (Luke 5:27-39)**

#### **Discussion Starters**

1. Is there an “old” practice in the church you are particularly fond of?
2. What “new” practice do you need to begin?

**Study:** Read Luke 5:27-39 in preparation for the following questions.

3. What is a “parable” and why did Jesus use them?
4. What was Jesus doing before this passage?
5. What does this have to do with wineskins and cloth?
6. To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

Define the following words or terms.

--“repentance” (Luke 5:32)—

--“prayers” (Luke 5:33)—

--“parable” (Luke 5:36)—

--“match” (Luke 5:36)—

--“ruined” (Luke 5:37)—

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7. Choose one of the words you looked up above, and write how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

8. What were the “old wineskins”, “new wine” and “new wineskins” Jesus’ was referring to in the parable? (HINT: CONTEXT!)

9. What is the point of Jesus’ parables re: wineskins and patches?

**Taking It Home** (You won’t be able to answer these questions without first answering the questions above.)

NOTE: Questions 9 and 10 may be difficult—if so, do not give up on them—they are at the core of understanding Jesus’ teaching. Make a point of discussing these with your small group or the church leadership if you feel stuck.

10. What do you see as “old wineskins” in the church or in your life?

11. What is the “new wine” we need (again in the church, and/or in your own life)?

12. If the “old wineskins” you identified in question 10 won’t work for the “new wine” in question 11, what “new wineskins” do we need today?