Sermons from the Gospel of Luke

Scandal Luke 5:27-39



1. Jesus defines his mission as being specifically for sinners and rebukes religion where the righteous separate from the sinners.

Jesus sought out and initiated relationships with sinners and traitors.

Not only did Jesus associate with sinners, his disciples did too.

Am I more like the Pharisees or am I more like Jesus and his disciples in how I relate to sinners and "traitors?"



2. Through his relationships with sinners, Jesus demonstrated God's love, compassion, and grace while calling sinners to live a new life.

Jesus sought the presence of sinners in a setting that communicated a sense of intimacy and acceptance.

Jesus invited sinners to reorient their lives OFF the things and ways of this world and TO the ways and purposes of God. This is repentance.

How do I need to reorient my life today off the ways and concerns of this world and to the ways and purposes of God?



Luke 5:27-39

3. Individually and collectively, Christians become something new in Christ.

Jesus and his disciples did not demonstrate the acceptable and traditional religious behavior.

New life in Christ involves new ways of living in the presence and power of God. People will become like Christ, not like one another.

Some people will not accept new things in Christ and will miss out on God's kingdom as it advances.



I should expect God's Spirit to move in new and unexpected ways, creating new forms and functions, new songs, a new day. I should expect to see familiar elements, but I should never doubt that there will be new things.

The larger question is this: am I being made new?

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