

New Wine for a New Way

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-4 Landing/Celeb Place. Father-Son. Children's Min.
- B. Slide5a Children at Risk: 3-5pm Hearing from Kristi Piatkowski (Dir of Develop) from *Rancho Damacitas* local ministry, sharing on ways be involved w/the kids in their organization.
 1. They provide *care & compassion* for **abused & neglected** kids/young adults.
- C. Slide5b I'm collecting Suits & Ties *for Haitian pastors* - on hanger, to church by May5th.
- D. Holocaust Memorial Day - May1 at Mur City Center/Town Square. Worship, prayer walk, memorial service. Speaker, *Rosemary Schindler*, grand-niece of Schindler. See flyer bulletin brd

II. Slide6 Intro: New Wine for a New Way

- A. Slide7a 1st I want to see how Jesus is about to *Contextualize* His message.
- B. **Contextualize** = con + texture/weave *or, join by weaving*.
 1. **The Gospel** never changes, yet it must be **contextualized** (or fitted) to the culture it is brought to. [the gospel *never* changes, **but the situation & who** we are sharing with...*always* does]
 2. Slide7b Explain Buddhism Pyramid: Nirvana/heaven/suffering
 - a) **In Buddhism there is no God**. It's about **you** attaining *Enlightenment* [Gautama/founder]
 - b) **Buddha** = *awakened, enlightened*, one who attained *Nirvana*. [tera-Vah-da; ma-Ha-ya-na]
 - (1) Move up towards Nirvana, be free from **emotions**. Have less **desires**.
 - (2) The goal is **no desire** or **emotions** at all. **Not pleasure nor sufferings**.
 - c) **Now** imagine evangelizing a Buddhist. **Jesus died for you** (*suffering?* 4 Noble truths: avoid/overcome) **Would you like to go to Heaven? (1/2 way?) Would you like eternal life? (no I want it to end?) Jesus Loves you!** (oh? love is a *desire*, I'm try to rid myself of?)
 - d) **So, where do you start with a Buddhist?** Maybe w/**compassion**.
 - (1) Their understanding of **compassion** includes qualities of *sharing, readiness to give comfort, sympathy, concern, caring*. [sync <---> sect]
- C. Slide7c **Syncretism** (*together*). Too sensitive to Culture. **Culture** above the Gospel. Anything goes philosophy. Example Sadducees. Ultra-Liberal church today.

D. **Sectarianism** (*apart*). Separate from the Culture. **Religion/church** above the Gospel. **Fear?**...we'll be contaminated. **Example Pharisees**. Hyper-conservative church today.

1. Here Jesus steers this situation well **with both** the **sinners** & the **religious guys**.

III. Slide8 **MATTHEW'S MAKEOVER (9)** *or Jesus at the IRS*

A. **A man named Matthew** - He doesn't write much concerning himself.

1. Luke adds that he **left all** to follow Jesus(5:28). [Mt wasn't going to be the hero of his own stories]

2. Pr 27:2 **Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.**

B. It's amazing who Jesus would pick to win Jews to Himself.

1. If his name was **Levi** (**what tribe from? purpose?**). So here Jesus picks a **prodigal priest** that became **Rome's IRS agent** to win **Jews for Jesus...nice!**

2. **Slide9** So Matthew works the local tax office in Capernaum. Catching all the merchants traveling N/S on **the Via Maris/the way of the Sea 4:15** & the local fishermen bringing back their Tilapia catch out of Galilee. **Mile Marker** found in Capernaum **Matthew stood next to, to collect taxes** (found in Capernaum).

C. Matthew had a **deeply religious upbringing** though...he knew his O.T.

1. Matthew not only quotes more than any of the other gospel writers **but** more than **all 3 combined**. No less than **99** direct references to the O.T. Scriptures.

2. **He also quotes from every division of it:** from the **Torah** (law), the **Nevi'im** (prophets), & the **Ketuvim** (the writings). [i.e. the **TaNakh**]

D. Matthew was called **from** a business of **taking** **to** a business of **giving**.

E. **Slide10 Follow me** - sharp, decisive, & authoritative.

1. Yes, this was a command **but** it was also bursting w/an offering of **fellowship & friendship**...with **Jesus**.

2. **Submission** undoubtedly was demanded, **but fellowship** was offered.

F. Talk about **a short sweet testimony** the Shepherd whistled...I heard his voice...& followed.

1. **Lord, let my obedience be like the echo of your voice.**

IV. Slide11 **DINING WITH THE DEPRAVED (10-13)**

- A. Having been called, & having obeyed, he, w/equal promptness began to gather **a group of his own calling** to meet **Jesus**. *Who is in your sphere?*
- B. **Slide12** How evident it is that Matthew had already discovered *the straight highway* into the heart of **Jesus**.
1. He knew that **Jesus' heart** was set upon the *depraved & degraded*.
 2. It seems that when our old life was so fresh to us, that's who we reached out to - **but now** we seem to search out those **who'll fit in with our group, who'll fit well into our Christian Cathedrals**.
- C. **Slide13a** Matthew knew they wouldn't come to a **sermon** but they would **a supper**, so he puts on, as Luke calls it, **a great feast** (5:29). **Maybe a 3-Fold Feast:**
1. **Slide13b A Jubilee Feast** – to commemorate his **translation** into a **new life**.
 2. **A Farewell Feast** – A public confession of **surrender** to the call of Christ.
 3. **A Evangelistic Feast** - invites some of his business associates to **meet Jesus**.
- D. **Sinners came** - **How did he advertise that? Sinners came** - by occupation & by Character.
1. **Now**, by being with sinners, Jesus does not *approve or condone or turn a blind eye* to their behavior. **But Interesting...the sinners** were comfortable w/Jesus **Slide13c while the religious crowd** were not. - *Are sinners comfortable w/you?*
 2. We need more **Matthew Parties**. [when was the last time you had one? will you? or are sinners not welcome in your *holy home* any more?]
- E. **Slide14 Judging Jesus** (11) Now the Pharisee's have **a handy stone** to throw at Jesus...*He eats w/sinners*.
1. **Chickens**...they wouldn't ask **Jesus**...they go to **his disciples**.
 2. **Note** those who **share a table with Jesus** are those who are sick and in need of healing. **While** those who don't, take comfort in their own rt & neither **see** nor **will admit** their particular kind of sin, & its subsequent need of healing.
- F. **Slide15a** (12) **Jesus answer superb**. Where should a doctor be...but among the sick. *pic :)*
1. **When you're found in the midst of sinners**, are you seeking to bring healing & wholeness to them **spiritually** or allowing yourself to be infected w/their disease?
 2. I think this sums up Jesus' whole ministry...as **Doctor Jesus**.
 - a) **Slide15b Doctor Jesus**...our **Diagnostician**, knowing *the nature* of our disease.

- b) Doctor Jesus...our *Family Physician* making house calls for even the least of these.
- c) Doctor Jesus...our *Superior Surgeon* extracting our *cancerous sin*.
- d) Doctor Jesus...the *Chief Resident* of our heart, if we'll only receive Him in.

(1) **And don't forget...**a good doctor sometimes **hurts you** to **heal you...eg.**
the resetting of a broken bone.

G. Slide15c (13) Go learn Hosea 6:6 [said to men who *thought* they knew everything]

1. Go learn to have mercy towards sinners, to the spiritually needy. **Which** is a work more pleasing to God **than a mere formality of religious duties** or the **most expensive sacrifice** w/no concern for others. [i.e. *heart of law not letter*]

H. Jesus came to save *real sinners*. He came to deal not w/our *merits*, but our *demerits*.

V. Slide16a **FASTING OR FEASTING? (14,15)**

A. The *snakes/Pharisees* had *slithered up* to ask questions to **others**, **not** to Jesus.

But now, like *honest friends*, **John's disciples** feeling hurt, come right to headquarters & asked the Lord Himself, face to face they ask their question.

1. By the way, they happened to be *right in the middle of a fast* (Mrk.2:18).

Slide16b **Maybe they were smelling the feast?**

B. (15) **Why do you fast?** *You'll have to answer that yourself.* Why my disciples don't, He proceeds to answer. This was a time of **joy not mourning**. A **feast**, **not a funeral**.

C. **Will be taken away from them** - Here is the 1st He speaks about His death.

D. **So far...Jesus, the Physician** who offers sinners new life & spiritual health. **Jesus, the bridegroom** who brings new love & joy.

E. Back at vs.9 it said *Jesus passed on from there*. Jesus was passing by when He called Matthew to come & travel w/me. *Don't let Jesus pass you by.* **Are you hearing Him call to you this morning to follow Him?**

1. ***Come to me, all of you who are weary & carry heavy burdens, & I will give you rest.***

VI. Slide17 **RAGS & BOTA BAGS (16,17)**

A. **RAGS** (16)

B. This Illustration reminds us that he came to bring *spiritual wholeness*.

C. He did not come to *patch us up* & then let us fall apart.

1. Have you ever wasted your time trying to patch something that wasn't holding? [sprinkler, inner tube, pool]

D. Jesus came **not** to repair Israel's worn vesture, **but** to bring **new robes**.

E. **BOTA BAGS** (17)

F. Our word bottle comes from the *Spanish* word **bota** (a leather bottle).

G. *The wineskins teaches that He gave spiritual fullness.*

H. If unfermented wine is put into brittle old wineskins, **the gas** will burst the skins, **& both the skins & the wine** will be **lost**.

I. **The Jewish religion** was a **worn-out wineskin that** would burst if filled w/**the new wine** of the gospel.

1. **The new life** of the Spirit could not be forced into **the wineskins** of Judaism.

2. Jesus was revealing the Jewish religion was about to be **replaced**.

- a) Heb. 8:13 *By calling this covenant **new**, he has made the first one **obsolete**; and what is **obsolete** and **aging** will soon **disappear**.*

3. The things in the Ceremonial law were fulfilled in Jesus.

4. Today there is no need for **sacrifices, priests, the temple nor ceremonies**.

5. Jesus didn't come to **renovate** the Law **or** even **mix** Law & Grace.

6. Jesus Came with **New Life**.

- a) **Is Jesus wanting to pour New Life into you, or your ministry? Will you tear?**