



## Just New, Nothing Added

May 14, 2023

*"No one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins – and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins." -Jesus, Mark 2:22*

### God has unconditional love for me

### God cares for me

### God provides for me

Newly made wine must ferment which means it's active, converting grapes, sugar & yeast into ethanol and carbon dioxide which makes alcohol.

Ethanol - a colorless volatile flammable liquid which is produced by the natural fermentation of sugars.

### The dead and the living don't mix!

*"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, & do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1*

*"Let us also lay aside every weight, & sin which clings so closely, & let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus." Hebrews 12:1, 2*

### For your LifeGroup and growth time.

When have you tried to force yourself into a garment that no longer fit right? How long did you wear it? How did you decide that this wasn't a good idea?

Jesus says that our forgiven life doesn't fit inside our old lifestyle, in the same way.

Read Mark 2:22 together.

The old wineskins are a metaphor for the former life of sin we lived before faith in Jesus. The new wine is a metaphor for the life of faith I live when I trust God.

In what ways do you see people try to mix their former, dead life of sin into the new life that comes from Christ?

Have you ever seen anyone do this successfully? Does the dead life & the new life ever find peace with each other?

If our new life was wine, which needs to ferment or mature, in what ways does the forgiven life of a Christ-follower need to ferment, too?

How have you experienced this fermentation in your walk with God?

Read Hebrews 12:1, 2.

What things have helped this process? What things have hurt this process?

This weekend Taylor shared that people have helped her grow in Christ. Who helped you learn and grow in faith? Who are you helping to grow spiritually?

How can this group support each other's fermentation process?

Take time to prayer for each other. Make a decision today to live out what you read in Hebrews 12:1, 2.

*If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, drop us your name and we'll get back to you (emma@marinerscc.org)*