

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

- A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.
- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
 - Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

- B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. PRINCIPLES

Use these principles as you seek to receive all the newness of Jesus' New Wine:

A. NEW WINE

- Jesus has given us a tremendous promise: Rev 22:5-- Behold, I make all things new.
- We see God's heart for newness throughout the Bible:
 - At creation, Jesus, along with Father and Spirit, made a brand new world!
 - When man broke relationship with God in Eden, He made a new way to stay connected to man through the sacrificial system. This was the Old Covenant.
 - Repeated rebellion by the people of God, the Hebrews, made it obvious that a New Covenant was needed.
- Jesus left His throne in heaven so that our lives can be made new: 2 Cor 5:17 NLT-- Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
- New Wine points to the New Covenant that Jesus died to ratify: Matthew 9:9-17 NLT-- As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. ¹⁰ Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. ¹¹ But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" ¹² When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do." ¹³ Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." ¹⁴ One day the disciples of John the Baptist came to Jesus and asked him, "Why don't your disciples fast like we do and the Pharisees do?" ¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Do wedding guests mourn while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ "Besides, who would patch old clothing with new cloth? For the new patch would shrink and rip away from the old cloth, leaving an even bigger tear than before. ¹⁷ "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved."
- This passage shows us many ways in which Jesus deserves the name "The King of New." Let's look at a few of those reasons.
- Insights:

B. NEW PERSPECTIVE

- When Jesus called Matthew and his friends to follow Him, the serious practitioners of the Jewish faith couldn't believe their eyes (verses 9-11).
- These Pharisees were so focused on their rigid standards of conduct that they failed to see that Jesus was the promised Messiah and why He would pursue a sinner.

- The Old Covenant was a covenant based on works and keeping the law.
- The Pharisees strived zealously to please God by going above and beyond the commandments. They rejected anyone who didn't do the same.
- Romans 2:28-29 AMP-- For he is not a [real] Jew who is only one outwardly *and* publicly, nor is [true] circumcision something external and physical. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and [true] circumcision is of the heart, a spiritual and not a literal [matter]. His praise is not from men but from God.
- Busy with so many, many activities, they failed to understand what God's Word actually said. There was no room in their hearts and lives to actively listen to God.
- When Jesus speaks, He helps us see the truth, the way He sees a matter!
- He came for those who recognize their need of Him, not for those who see themselves as righteous because of all their effort and activity (verse 13).
- Insights:

C. NEW PRIORITIES

- Jesus challenged the disciples of John the Baptist to embrace a new set of priorities.
- God values relationship as the highest priority. Jesus told them that relationship and fellowship mean more to Him than fasting and other spiritual disciplines (verse 15).
- He tells His listeners to go and learn what this means: Hosea 6:6 NLT-- I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know Me more than I want burnt offerings.
- This idea of knowing God vs. sacrifice was news to the disciples of John the Baptist. They believed in Jesus but their lives functioned much like that of the Pharisees.
- Though seekers of Christ, they had one foot in the Old and the other in the New.
- We find security in serving, doing and duty because it's familiar and offers a measure of control. It takes time, focus, and vulnerability to pursue relationship.
- Establishing and growing our connection with God is vital and life giving. Works and duty grow old over time: Mark 7:6-7 NIV-- These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.
- Insights:

D. NEW POSSIBILITIES

- When Jesus speaks of New Wine in this passage, He is referring to the truths that apply to our lives and our relationships with God under the New Covenant (verse 17).
- New Wine requires New Wineskins. That means that the living and active truth of God's Word/the Gospel won't fit into any pre-existing ideas or lifestyles we have.
- Think of your inner man as a wineskin. New Wine will challenge any wineskins (previous mindsets, attitudes, and behaviors) that we bring to our new life in Christ.
- Wineskins put together out of worldly values or fleshly desires cannot stretch or be reshaped to accommodate the change and growth of the Spirit. They have to go!
- We need New Wineskins so that God's Spirit and His truth can fill us and expand our lives with heaven-born possibilities that start the process of making all things new.
- Isn't it wonderful to know that we have already received New Wineskins? They are able to expand to contain all the newness that the Lord has in store for us: Ezekiel 36:26 NLT-- I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.
- There is seemingly limitless newness to be experienced and enjoyed as we open our lives to this New Wine. May we wholeheartedly welcome the King of New!
- John 1:16-17 AMP-- For out of His fullness [the superabundance of His grace and truth] we have all received grace upon grace [spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift heaped upon gift]. ¹⁷ For the Law was given through Moses, but grace [the unearned, undeserved favor of God] and truth came through Jesus Christ.