

Oaklands Chapel–Assignment
Sunday, March 8 2009

Luke 5:27-39

“Confronting Conventional Thinking re: Sinners and Fasting”

1. Read Luke 5:27-32. In Luke’s narrative, this incident comes at a point where Jesus is making Himself known to the Pharisees. Given what you know about tax collectors, how do you think the Pharisees would react to what happens in verses 27 & 28?
2. Luke’s portrait of Jesus includes much about His eating habits (Compare 7:36; 9:12ff; 10:38ff; 11:37; 14:1; 19:7; 22:14). Talk about the significance of eating together both in 1st century times and now. What did Jesus show by eating with people? How did the Pharisees respond to His eating habits (v. 30)? Do we eat together enough?
3. Talk about how Jesus answer to the Pharisees in verse 31 captures the heart of His mission on earth. Is there something fresh that we need to learn from this as we seek to be join with Him in God’s mission to reach the world?
4. Read Luke 5:33-35. What kind of claim is Jesus making by responding to the Pharisees in this way? How do these words clarify and affirm the way He has been revealing His identity to them over them ever since they first showed up on the scene in 5:17?
5. Jesus says that His disciples won’t fast while He is with them—does He ever say that won’t pray?? Should we learn something from this???
6. Read verses 36-39. Given the context of Jesus’ intent to make His identity known to the Pharisees, talk about what Jesus is really trying to say through these 2 short parables. How should we value the ‘newness’ of what Jesus came to bring? How should we be careful not to interpret or apply these parables?