



Daily Reflections

January 21, 2019

Scripture

Mark 2: 18-22

The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to Jesus and objected,

"Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?"

Jesus answered them,

"Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?

As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast.

But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak.

If he does, its fullness pulls away,

the new from the old, and the tear gets worse.

Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins.

Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins,

and both the wine and the skins are ruined.

Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins."

Our Scripture Reflection

Neither John nor Jesus could do or say anything that was acceptable to the Pharisees. Why? Because their understanding of God and religious practices were too restrictive and small. To appreciate Jesus and appreciate the new

life He offers requires a heart that is hungry and completely open. The hearts of the Pharisees were small and hardened.

Food for your Journey

The depths of our spirituality does not depend upon changing the things we do, but in doing for God what we ordinarily do for ourselves.

—Brother Lawrence.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Open my heart completely with Your holy Grace so that I may receive and live Your Gospel with joy. May those around me see my joy and turn to You as well. Amen