

## **Written in Red: Words of Jesus**

The Problem with Wineskins

*Luke 5:36-39*

### **Introduction**

*You can't read the Gospels, the life of Jesus, without realizing that he shook things up, challenged the status quo and upset some long-standing traditions. In his short story about new wine and old wineskins he shows which side of change, innovation, creativity and newness he is on. And which side he wants us to be on.*

### **Jesus and new wine**

Challenged some long-standing traditions

Upset some traditionalists

Offered new ways to experience God

### **How we get stuck with old wineskins**

Something met a specific need

Became meaningful

Became comfortable

Became important

Became essential

Became non-negotiable

Became personal

### **Dangers of old wineskins**

Becoming more committed to the skin than the wine

Become rigid, brittle, stiff and temperamental

Celebrate past more than notice present

Miss what God is doing new today

### **Becoming new wineskins**

Remember that we hold the precious Gospel

Decide to be made new by the power of God

Aggressively join what God is doing today

### **Personal Response**

1. What kind of wineskin are you? Are you able to hold and share new wine with thirsty people around you?
2. Are you soft and pliable, flexible and able to expand to contain precious new wine?
3. Do you love the new wine more than the old wineskins? Is the new wine more important to you than the traditions, structures and habits that have contained the wine in the past?

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**Next Week:** The Unforgivable Sin

*Mark 3:20-30*