

**Transformed
Let's Go
Mark 2:18-22
3-21-21**

Hebrews 8:6 – *“But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior...as is the covenant of which He is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.”*

Ezekiel 36:27 – *“And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes...”*

Religious are committed to:

1. Performing
2. Promoting
3. Protecting

I. The Lord Gives Us A Transforming Hope.

Mark 2:18-20 – *“Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. And people came and said to him, ‘Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?’ And Jesus said to them, ‘Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.’”*

Isaiah 58:3-6 – *“...Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers... Fasting like yours...will not make your voice to be heard on high...Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?”*

Matthew 6:16 – *“Jesus said, ‘And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites...’”*

Psalms 16:11 – *“In your presence there is fullness of joy...”*

Philippians 4:4 – *“Rejoice in the Lord always...”*

John 16:24 – *“Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”*

John 15:11 – *“These words I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you to the fullest...”*

Nehemiah 8:10 – *“...the joy of the Lord is your strength.”*

II. The Lord Gives Us a Transformed life.

Mark 2:21-22 – *“No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And 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. But new wine is for fresh wineskins.”*

Isaiah 61:10 – *“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord for He...covered me with the robe of righteousness as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”*

Going Deeper This Week

1. How would you respond to a friend who asked, “Are there different roads that lead to God?”
2. How have you been transformed by knowing Jesus Christ?
3. Some people fast to earn God’s favor or to get Him to act on their behalf. How is that conception mistaken?
4. How can followers of Christ demonstrate to the world that we are celebrating with the living bridegroom, rather than continuing to mourn His death?
5. How does rejoicing in our life with the living Savior fit in with fasting and praying for Jesus’ return?
6. Under what circumstances would you consider fasting?
7. How does God describe the very best type of fasting? Isaiah 58:3-6
8. How is our life before knowing Jesus Christ like an “old garment” that cannot be merely patched?
9. How is our relationship with God in Christ like “new wine” in an old wineskin?
10. Use these scriptures to pray for joy in Christ for you and others. Have each person read one and pray it. Psalm 16:11, Philippians 4:4, John 16:24, John 15:11, Nehemiah 8:10 and Romans 14:17.