

# New Storage



*And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the new wine would burst the wineskins, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine must be stored in new wineskins.*

Luke 5:37–38 NLT (also found in Matt. 9:17 and Mark 2:22)

For those who couldn't quite understand the concept of repairing new garments with new patches and old with old, Jesus told another story to illustrate his meaning. He used wine and wineskins to make the same point.

Goatskins were used to hold wine. Because wine is made of grapes, the wine changes, or ferments, as it gets older. The fermentation stretches the wineskins. Now, if you put new wine that has not yet fermented into an old wineskin, you're going to have trouble once the new wine ferments. The old skin will not be able to make room for the expanding wine, because the old skin has already been stretched to capacity. You'll end up with spilled wine, bursting out of the old wineskin. What a waste.

So, just like you need to use new patches to repair new garments, you need to put new wine in new skins. Keep the old in the old.

The Christian lifestyle should be reflective of this parable, too. There are some things you did when you didn't know Christ or didn't know any better. You may have tried to follow a set of ethics of your own design, which didn't exclude you from gossiping, fretting, scheming to get ahead—oh, the list may go on and on. But now that you have been introduced to a new life in Christ, you can forgo your old ways. You must allow God's spirit to fill you and lead you, not your own way. Along with this change comes a beautiful peace about life that only God provides. Every aspect of a new life in him is better. You can turn gossiping words into praises and worrying into prayers. Don't get stuck pouring old wine into new skins. Make room for the new, really good stuff.

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Almighty Lord: Thank you for giving me a new life in Christ. Rid me of my old ways and my old way of thinking. Renew in me a clean, serene heart and mind to follow and serve you with each day. I lean and depend on you for all things, and I humbly follow Jesus' teachings for all things in my life.



