



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	11-10-2026	Parable of the Shirts
 Nibbles <i>whilst you wait</i>	☐ What are you like at clearing out your wardrobe? ☐ What piece of clothing have you resisted letting go of?	
 Starters <i>discussion</i>	☐ Why do wise builders ensure a 'new build' property has good foundations? ☐ When building a property, why is it tempting to not spend as much time/ effort/ money on foundations? (typically 8-15% of construction time/ costs) ☐ What are the 'tell tell' signs that a property might have weak foundations? ☐ What can you do to rectify/ strengthen foundations?	
 Read	Luke 5:33-39	 Listen again ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks
 Mains <i>Bible study</i>	☐ v.33 : Who are the 'they'? (see v.30) Why were the 'religious elite' so disturbed by Jesus? Earlier, what had Jesus been doing? (see ch.5) We all need to eat and drink; what were the 'religious elite' <i>really</i> objecting to? ☐ v.34-35 : How were the 'religious elite' like mourners at a wedding? Why did those who encountered Jesus feel more like guests at a wedding? How are <i>feasting</i> and <i>fasting</i> both spiritual practices? What makes them <i>spiritual</i> ? ☐ v.36 : What does the 'old shirt' represent? What has Jesus done to the 'old covenant'? Why is it absurd to cut up a new shirt just to patch up an 'old shirt'? What happens if we patch up our 'old shirt' religious mentality with a few more modern worship songs and filter coffee after the service? ☐ v.37-38 : In ancient times, wine was stored in animal skins. They were single-use because they would harden as the wine emptied. If new wine was then added, they would crack and spill. What is the new 'wine'? What is the 'new wineskin'? What happens if we try to sing new songs with 'old covenant' assumptions? ☐ v.39 : When have you just accepted a product/ taste, only later to discover a far superior product/ taste – so good, you'll now never go back to the 'old taste'? How were the 'religious elite' rejecting what they hadn't experienced? Do we ever do that?	
 Sides <i>for interest</i>	☐ Why is the parable of the shirts & the parable of the winebox both more than just about <i>modernising church</i> ? ☐ In the Bible, what was a 'covenant'? ☐ How does the 'Old Testament' Law point us to Jesus and grace? See Romans 7:7-25 . ☐ Why does Law + Grace not work?	

 Desserts <i>for reflection</i>	☐ Which verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? ☐ Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? ☐ When are you drawn back into 'old shirt' (old covenant/ Law) thinking?
 Do	☐ Review the contents of your wardrobe. Have a clear out of your 'old shirt' items. See this as a picture of your faith life, as you embrace Christ's 'new shirt' life of grace.
 Pray	
 My questions:	

Access Small Group/ Reflection notes from: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Notes

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out : ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups

Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk

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