

## “New Wine.”

Today's theme is inspired by the Parable of New Wine from the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke. Seeing the word wine opens different associations for many of us that spark joy and celebration. Wine is a drink that has been around for a very long time and is a result of an intentional, carefully thought-out process which could very roughly be mapped out in the following steps:

**Step 1** - Planting  
**Step 2** - Pruning

**Step 3** - Harvesting  
**Step 4** - Crushing

**Step 5** - Fermentation  
**Step 6** - Bottling

**Step 7** - Drinking,  
enjoying, sharing



Wine comes from grapes that need to be planted in good soil, watered and pruned until the perfect moment where they are picked and harvested. The most significant part of this process, however, is in the middle: the crushing. This crushing is the point where the grape moves from one state to the next. Without being crushed, grapes could never be delicious wine but maybe only dried-up raisins. The crushed grapes release juices which can then ferment until they are ready to be bottled and distributed to be shared.

I invite you to take on this analogy and to consider that you, your life, and your experiences could be represented by these grapes. With this analogy, it could be explained that we experience the process of being made into new wine time and time again as we transition through different seasons of our life. We sometimes need to go through the experience of being crushed and transformed to become new life and new power for ourselves and others.

I invite you to reflect using the following song and lyrics to contemplate what it may be saying to you:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbJaM\\_EneMw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbJaM_EneMw)



People do not put new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise the skins burst, the wine spills out, and the skins are ruined. Rather, they pour new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved. Matthew 9:14-17, Luke 5:33-39, Mark 2:18-22

#### QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

*What stage of the winemaking process are you in now? Are you growing and being watered, or being pruned and refined? Are you in a season of being crushed? Are you fermenting with new joys on the horizon? Or are you living in a joyful time of sharing and celebration?*

Lasallian Reflection is developed by the Lasallian Formation for Mission Team.

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