

The Gospel of John: That You May Believe

The First Sign

John 2:1-11 (page 740)

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The miracle of Cana assures us that:

- Jesus is involved in the everyday aspects of our lives (vs. 1-5)
- Jesus is about transforming all things (vs. 6-8)
- Jesus' provision is always extravagant (vs. 9-11)

Getting personal:

Why does John call Jesus' miracle a "sign"? What does a sign do?

How is Jesus' miracle here a picture of the redemption that He offers through His Cross? Explain.

How does this miracle corroborate what John declares about Jesus in chapter 1:1-14? Explain.

How did Jesus' first sign affect His disciples? (see 2:11) What caused you to first believe in Jesus?

Where do you need to see the hand of Jesus turning ordinary things into extraordinary things?

Growth Group
Sermon Study Helps
John 2:1-11 (Week Five)

(Note: This guide is to help *facilitate* discussion with your Growth Group. Use it as a *RESOURCE* for the group in discovering and applying the truths of God's Word. There may be questions you *do not want to use* and there may be instances where the group *chooses to focus on a particular point, verse or truth*. This guide is to assist the group in growing in their relationship with Christ and the Scriptures, thus, it is not necessary to complete all of the points in the discussion guide...use this with flexibility and not as a rigid task list to get through. God's richest blessing upon you all.)

Intro:

This week, we see Jesus attending a wedding where a potentially embarrassing problem occurs with the wine. It becomes the occasion for the first "sign" of Jesus' ministry. Every year, wine connoisseurs all over the world bid on and buy prized bottles of wine at a great monetary cost. But the world's finest wine was not made in the vineyards of France nor found in the finest five star restaurants. It was made and served at a forgotten and unknown wedding in Cana of Galilee over two millennia ago! That wine is valued to this day - not for its rarity - but for *what it reveals about its maker* - Jesus Christ!

Discussion Questions:

Discuss the interchange between Jesus and His mother (vs 3-5). Why do you suppose Mary would come to Him with this problem? Why should we come to Jesus with our problems?

Jesus responds to Mary's request with "*My hour has not come*" (v 4) Read John 7:30 and 12:27 - what does this term mean in these passages? How does that statement define the purpose of Jesus' life on earth?

Can we make any observations about the fact that the pots were for "purification" water, or is that just *coincidental* to the story? Explain.

In the story, the amount of wine that Jesus made was likely somewhere between 110 and 160 gallons (depending on how you convert the measurements). Why would He make that much wine? What does that teach us about God?

Who got the credit for the wine? Re-read the passage and identify who knew that Jesus had worked the miracle. Why didn't others besides the disciples believe?

Why do you think that the first sign occurs at a wedding? How does this miracle tie into what John has already said about Jesus in 1:1-14? How does this miracle tie into Jesus' mission and purpose? Does it have any relevance to what is yet future as well? Discuss.

What was the result of this sign? (v 11) What caused you to first believe that Jesus was the Son of God? On what basis do we believe and proclaim Him today?

Taking it to the streets....

Jesus' instructions to the servants must have seemed strange to them but they obeyed Him anyway. Have you ever felt God asking you to do something that didn't make sense? How did it turn out? Why do you think God does that?

Have you seen God's glory since you became a follower of Christ? Explain.

Who are some people you are praying will come to the growth group or church and perhaps come to know Jesus?