

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

A Wedding Feast
John 2:1-11
January 30, 2022

This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.
- John 2:11

I. AN ACT OF INTERCESSION

- Jesus' mother intercedes on behalf of the groom's family to spare them a great *faux pas*.
- Her initial request is rebuffed. Jesus is not a side-show wonder-worker, and his hour has not yet arrived for such works (John 12:27).
- Mary relents and simply tells the servants to obey Jesus' words. God does not need instructions. He invites us to simply lay the need before him (Luke 11:1-13, 18:35-43).

II. WATER TO WINE—A NEW ORDER

- Jesus orders that six stone purification jars be used to make new wine. The old order is being replaced by the new (Joel 3:18; Amos 9:13-14; Luke 5:36-38).
- The new order inaugurated in the ministry of Jesus brings great abundance and joy. All things become new (2 Cor. 5:16-21; John 10:10; Eph. 3:20-21).
- The new wine that tastes like old wine is the best wine. Life in the new order is the best way of life (John 10:7-10).
- Life in Christ is neither all sorrow and sacrifice nor gluttony and overabundance, but one balanced by feasting, rejoicing, and sharing in Christ's suffering (Deut. 14:22-26; Isa. 25:6-9; Rom. 8:17, 34-39).

III. THEY BELIEVED IN HIM

- This, the first of Jesus' signs, produced two results:
 1. It manifested his glory (John 17:5).
 2. It elicited faith in his disciples (Vs. 11).
- For John, Jesus' miracles were more about markers pointing to his identity than about his power. The Synoptic writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke) focused more on the power behind them.

KNOW: The old order is giving way to the new. Jesus brings with him new wine, new life, a new covenant.

DO: Step into newness of life with Jesus.

Suggested Reading:

Basic Christianity by John R.W. Stott (LifePoint Library #230 STO)

Taste and See: Savoring the Supremacy of God in All of Life: 140 Meditations by John Piper (LifePoint Library #242 PIP).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 2:1-11

1. What is the general flow of this narrative? What happens and why?
2. Why does John tell us about Jesus' mothers' request, do you think?
3. Why does Jesus ultimately interject in this situation? What was at stake?
4. What was the quality of the new wine? Why?
5. What is the point of this story? Why does John share it, do you think?
6. What does this teach you about Jesus? What impact does it have on you today?