

# Miracle #1: Jesus Manifests His Glory at the Wedding in Cana

John 2:1-12

**2** On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. **2** Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. **3** When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." **4** And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." **5** His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

**6** Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.<sup>[a]</sup> **7** Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. **8** And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. **9** When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom **10** and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." **11** This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

**12** After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers<sup>[b]</sup> and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days.

## Introduction:

- Overview of John: Where are we?

Prologue	Book of Signs That You Might Believe	Discourse & Passion Narrative That you might have life	Epilogue
Word-Flesh (1:1-18)	John the Baptist (1:19-34) Call of Disciples (1:35-51) → <b>7 Miracles (2-11)</b> Temple (2:13-25) Nicodemus (3) Woman at the Well (4) Woman Caught in Adultery (7:53-8:11) Triumphal Entry (12:12-19)	Foot-Washing (13) Team Time (14-17) Trial (18) Cross (19) Resurrection (20)	Fish-Peter (21)

- 7 Miracles: We Only Play Frisbee with Baby Lovers

## John

The Seven Miracles



We Only Play Frisbee  
With Baby Lovers.

W	Water to Wine
O	Official's Son
P	Pool of Bethesda
F	Feeding of the 5000
W	Walks on Water
B	Blind Man
L	Lazarus Raised

→ In the handout.

- All kinds of things can go wrong at weddings.



We had a few snags at our wedding, nothing crazy, but things you remember and chuckle at:

- The lady in charge of the flowers decided to wait and buy the flowers the day of the wedding and then arrive with barely enough time to get them in place.
- Our ring bearer never made it down the aisle. He got scared of all those people. The pastor gave him a little come-here motion, but he just wasn't going down that aisle.
- The DJ forgot my name, so at the reception, he announced us at "Mr. and Mrs. Carolyn Hansen."

[CLICK FOR VIDEO] There are just so many details to a wedding, something is bound to go wrong.

VIDEO: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=RVGdavBgJsk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=RVGdavBgJsk) – groomsman passes out (<http://applian.com/frecorder4/welcome51.php?player=1>)

### Lay Out the Facts

- Who? - Jesus, disciples, Mary and people at the wedding
- What? - Jesus solves the wine problem.
- Where? - Cana in Galilee ----->
- When? - The third day [in VERSE 1]
- Why? - To display His glory to His disciples



## **John is focused on Displaying Jesus' Glory**

John 2:11 says, "This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him." They saw his glory and they believed! Later, Jesus says to Martha in John 11:40, "**Jesus said** to her, "Did I not **say** to you that **if you believe, you will see the glory** of God?" **[IMAGE: GLORY SPIRAL]** Then this whole thing spirals into greater and greater glory and greater and greater faith. If you see his glory, you're faith is strengthened. If you believe, you will see greater manifestations of His glory. Glory→Faith→Glory→Faith...

My desire today is that we would see Christ's glory magnificently displayed in John 2:1-12 and that might lead us into greater faith. This faith will lead us into seeing God work more gloriously in our lives and will in turn strengthen our faith even more.

## **[PRAY]**

### **2 Examples of How this story Displays the Glory of Jesus (as I see here in John 2:1-12)**

- 1. The glory of Jesus' complete devotion to His Father. (2:1-5)**
- 2. The glory of Jesus as the Ultimate Bridegroom. (2:6-12)**

- 1. The glory of Jesus' complete devotion to His Father (over and above earthly relationships). (2:1-5)**

- READ John 1:1-3: On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
  - My Programmer: I know what Mary is doing here. She states the problem to Jesus implying that he can fix it. I tell my programmer. There's such and such a problem with the website. I don't have to say: "Fix it." He understands that it is assumed that he will fix the problem. Mary is saying: "There's no wine. Jesus, fix it."
- Jesus response throws us off a bit: [READ VERSE 4] **GENTLE And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come."** Jesus isn't rude or disrespectful, but this isn't the answer we expected him to give his mother. It's a bit abrupt. It doesn't come across as affectionate. Our hearts tend to go out to Mary here. She's looking after the wedding trying to make sure it goes well. You'd think Jesus would respond, "Sure mom. Anything for you!"
  - "**Woman**" not mother. He emphasizes the fact that she is a regular person, not that she is the one who birthed him.
  - "**What does this have to do with me?**" – This phrase is used 5 times in the New Testament and every other time it's used by demons who are speaking to Jesus. "What do you have to do with us." Why are you bothering us? Leave us alone.
  - Matthew 8:28-29 <sup>28</sup> And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes,<sup>29</sup> two demon-possessed<sup>29</sup> men met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup> And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" (Or, What do you have to do with us? Our hour has not come yet."
  - Demons were saying, "Jesus why are you meddling here. Why are you going to torment us when it's not the proper time? It's not time for you to come in and judge us yet."
  - Jesus: "**My hour has not yet come.**" (verse 4)
  - No wine. Jesus fix the problem. --- Jesus responds, "My hour has not yet come." What's he referring to here? "My hour". Some commentators think he was referring to the hour of his death. Perhaps that's true, but it seems odd for him to say "I'm not ready to go to the cross yet" in response to fix our wine problem. Or, you might think he's saying, "It's not time for me to do miracles yet." But if that's the case, then why did he go ahead and do the miracle. Was he disobeying God regarding the timing of his ministry in order to help his mom fix the wine problem. I don't think so. I'm thinking what Jesus was saying here is, "I'm not ready to go public. I've just gathered a few disciples. I'm not ready to do a huge spectacle at a wedding and attract all that attention. I'm not ready to say "GRAND OPENING! THE MESSIAH HAS ARRIVED" by doing some big flashy miracle."

- Jesus does this miracle more subtly, almost as if on the sly. His disciples and the servants see what he's doing, but I imagine that most of the people at the wedding didn't even know what was happening.
- Still I think you may be wondering, why is he so brusque with Mary, why the stiff arming.

- **Why the abrupt response?** (3 Reasons)

**1) Mary needs to be re-oriented.**

- Some say that Jesus is gently rebuking Mary or if I were to say it in a softer way, He's re-orientating her. Basically, he's saying, "Woman, why are you meddling here? My power is not at your command. The miracles I will do will be at the command of my Heavenly Father, not my earthly mother. And beyond that, it's not time for me to make a big spectacle of myself and go public."
- Perhaps, Mary needed to start seeing Jesus differently": Maybe I'm speculating too much here, but I think Jesus may have been concerned for Mary that she needed to see him as more than her little boy. Maybe. Just maybe this was Jesus way of saying, "Mary, your biggest need for me is not what I can give you as your son, but what I can give you as your savior. You taught me to walk. You changed my diapers. You loved me as a mother. Now, I need to love you as your God, and as your savior. That's how you need to see me write now; your life depends on it."
- I think Mary needed to be re-oriented.

**2) Jesus needed to clarify that earthly family relationships don't get you any spiritual perks in the kingdom of God.**

- It's the family of God, not the earthly family that Jesus is primarily concerned with. He gives these surprising, even uncomfortable, responses when he knows that people are elevating the importance of his earthly family too much.
  - "A woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, 'Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!' But he said, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!'" ([Luke 11:27-28](#))
  - "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.' And he answered them, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers!'" ([Mark 3:32-34](#))
- Jesus had to remind them and us, it is those who follow, those who believe, and those who hear the Word of God and keep it that are my true family. Neither Mary, nor Jesus brothers and sisters, got unique spiritual perks because of the DNA they shared with Jesus. It is believers, followers of Jesus, who truly are His family.
- **Disclaimer:** Jesus was not anti-family. He rebuked the religious leaders for teaching people not to honor their parents

### 3) Jesus disciples needed to understand Jesus radical devotion to His Father.

- Mary's words beg the question: "Jesus, who do you answer to? Who do you take orders from?" Jesus had to make it very clear. "I take orders from the Father, not you woman."
- Jesus was completely committed to obeying his heavenly father:
  - **John 8:28**: "I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me."
  - **John 5:17-19**: "My Father is working until now, and I am working. . . [T]he Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise."
- I think the disciples of Jesus got the message:
  - (Acts 5:27-29) --- Peter and some other disciples were brought before the religious leaders and they said this same thing. "And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, 'We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, '**We must obey God rather than men.**'"
- Jesus has to put Mary in her place and say, "I must obey God rather than men." Jesus displays his glory by showing both to Mary and the disciples who He took orders from.

#### 1. The glory of Jesus' complete devotion to His Father. (2:1-5)

#### Why does he do the miracle?

- Since Mary isn't calling the shots and it's not time yet for him to go public, so why does he go ahead and do the miracle?
- He goes on to do the miracle, in a more private way, but he does it nonetheless.
- 4 Reasons: I think there are four reasons that I see:
  1. His Father gave him the green light.
  2. His mother made the request. --- Though he had to re-orient her, or in essence, put her in her place, he still honored the fact that she took her problem to the right place. She took it to Jesus.
  3. He wanted to show his glory to his disciples to strengthen their faith.
  4. He wanted to show his disciples that He was the glorious bridegroom who would take care of his bride.

#### 2. The glory of Jesus as the Ultimate Bridegroom.

### **John the Baptist Declares that Jesus is the Bridegroom**

- In John 3:29–30, John the Baptist speaks one last time about the superiority of Jesus. He says, “The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease.”
- John the Baptist declares the greatness and superiority of Jesus, and what happens? Not only do more people start going to Jesus’ disciples for baptism, but John’s own disciples start leaving him and following Jesus. John says, “Yes, that’s how it should be. The one who has the bride is the bridegroom.” The bride is the believers, the followers, and they are to be with the groom, which is Jesus Christ who came to take for himself a bride. John’s saying, “I’m just a friend of the groom, maybe one of the groomsmen; that beautiful bride, she’s not for me. She’s for him!” Jesus is the bridegroom. What’s the job of the groomsmen? To make everything go well for the groom. Plan the bachelor party. Help with the decorations. Seat the audience. Make sure grandma has a ride to the wedding. Take care of anything and everything that needs to be done so the groom’s wedding goes well. John emphasized this point, “The groom takes center stage!”
- The groomsmen help with the little details, but the groom is in charge of making sure the wedding goes well.

### **Who’s fault is it that they’ve run out of wine?**

- Mary states the problem: “They have no wine”
  - Someone blew it, but who’s fault is this?
  - In our day and age, we might blame the caterer – pretty poor planning. Or, we might blame the parents of the bride – a little stingy there, not purchasing enough wine for the wedding. Or the wedding planner. BUT take a look at verses 8-10. [READ VERSES 8-10]
- [READ VERSES 8-10] <sup>8</sup> And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.”
- He calls the bridegroom. He says, “But you have kept the good wine until now.” The master of the feast knows who’s responsible for providing enough wine so that the wedding goes well.
- I’m sure the bridegroom has been dreading this moment. He knows he blew it. Too many people and too little wine. He know he skimped out on the wine. I’m sure the whole wedding he’s been thinking, “Please be enough wine. Please be enough wine.” He has set his bride up for embarrassment. The wine runs out. There’s a little murmuring across the party. His beloved’s face turns red as she blushes with embarrassment. She knows what people will be thinking. “Some provider this guy is going to be. He can’t even get enough wine for his own wedding.”

- The master calls the bridegroom over and the bridegroom is expecting the worst. He braces himself thinking he's going to hear, "Hey pal, what happened to the wine." But I'm sure he's dumbfounded when he hears, "But you have kept the good wine until now."
- He knows he hasn't. He knows he's blown it.
- **So Like Us as Husbands**: How many times have we blown it has husbands. We're always flubbing up in our ability to provide for our wives. "But you were supposed to grab that at the grocery story." "Sorry, honey. I forgot."
- But Jesus steps into the role of the bridegroom...and he takes care of the wine problem. In so doing, He shows how he is the ultimate bride groom and how he takes care of his bride in two very special ways:

## 2. The glory of Jesus as the Ultimate Bridegroom. (2:6-12)

### Two Special Ways Jesus as the Ultimate Bridegroom Cares for His Bride

#### 1) Jesus makes His bride ravishingly beautiful. (2:6-7)

- [READ John 2:6-7] <sup>6</sup> Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
- Jesus tells them to fill "those jars". He specifically refers to these jars used for purification rites. These jars represent the old order, the old way of things where men went through various rituals to purify themselves. The servants could have protested, "Those are used for bathing. I don't know if people really should be drinking out of them." Jesus was making a point. "I make all things new." I am the fulfillment of the old order. The sacrificial system and purification rites are all shadows of what was to come. I am the true lamb of God. I am the final atonement. In the past, you washed with water and never really got clean; I will wash you in my blood and you will be clean in deed.
- Eph. 5: <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup>that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup>so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.<sup>[a]</sup>
- Beautify: Jesus came to a world in desperate need of a savior, a world where righteousness was a scarce commodity, a world needing cleansing from sin and he shed his own blood purify his bride and make her beautiful.

#### 2) Jesus provides abundance for His bride. (2:8-12)

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- Think about how much wine that was. [IMAGES 30 Gallons of Milk X 6] 20-30 gallons in each jar. There were 6 jars, and Jesus has them fill them to the brim.

That's 120-180 gallons – Jesus doesn't mess around when he makes wine. That's a lot of wine.

- Abundance: The word that comes to my mind is **abundance**. I love how when Jesus comes on the scene scarcity is turned into abundance.
  - **Feeding of 5000**: Jesus starts with 5 loaves and 2 fish to feed 5000 men plus women and children and not only does everyone eat until they are filled, but when he's done there are 12 baskets full of left overs.
  - **Heals Whole Towns**: Jesus goes into a town with all kinds of sick people, and I imagine a great need for physicians to care for them; then he heals everyone in the town, so now they have more doctors than they need.
  - **ECONOMY**: The Economy has been challenging for a lot of us, but keep in mind that you serve a God of abundance, a God who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and as Larry Burkett says, "He owns the hills too." He has no lack.
- **My Sins**: As I consider all the sins I've committed. Can his blood really cover all those sins? I'm amazed at his mercy and his grace. His forgiveness truly comes in abundant supply.
- **Not Just Clean Slate**: No. He clothes us in His righteousness. So God sees us as guilty for none of our sins and he sees us as if we are perfectly righteous just like Jesus. And he is completely pleased us because when he looks upon us, he sees the goodness of His Son.
- Jesus provides the wine...and not just a little, but an abundance. This party can go all night...or all week depending on how many people were there.
- Jesus is the groom that gets everything on the grocery list. He's the all sufficient one. He provides everything needed to make his bride beautiful and to take care of all her needs.
- Jesus is the ultimate bridegroom who makes his beloved beautiful and showers her with abundance!

### [COMMENTS FROM THE MEN]

Close with 3 points of application:

#### 1. Go to Jesus.

Go to Jesus: He'll cleanse your sin and make you beautiful. He'll provide for you with abundance.

- a. Something that Mary did right: Despite the fact that Jesus has to put her in her place and tell her that it is His Father, not His mother, who calls the shots. Despite that, I think there's something very honorable about Mary in this story. When she has a problem, she knows where to go.
- b. Mary goes to Jesus. She realizes there's nothing she can do to solve this problem, so she goes to the only one she knows who can make this right.

- c. She's at the end of her rope. Her abilities to solve the problem on her own are at an end. She can't do it herself, but she knows who can, so she turns to her bridegroom, her savior and her all sufficient provider for rescue. She tells the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
- Where do you turn when you've exhausted your resources? Go to Jesus. Be quick to run to him. Know he cares for you and he loves to respond to the prayers of his children.
- Also, direct your children to Jesus. Mary says to those under her authority, "Do whatever he tells you." There are times where we as parents don't have the wisdom we need. We don't have the answers. We can't solve the problem for our kids. So we have to say, "Turn to Jesus. Ask him for guidance. And do whatever he tells you."

**2. Do whatever he tells you.**

- And when you do... He'll turn your water to wine! He'll prove to you that he is your all sufficient, all providing bride groom. He knows you. He loves you. He has all the resources he needs, and He's going to take care of you. Just do whatever he tells you.

**3. Look forward to good things that are yet to come.**

- Know that Jesus saves the best for last.
- The master of the feast says, "Everyone serves the good wine first": God is saying in essence, "I'm not everyone. I save the best for last."
  - I give law before grace.
  - I clarify the problem before I give the solution.
  - I send my prophets before I send my Son.
  - I save the dessert for last.
  - I make sure that the grand finale is astounding!
  - Know that the best is yet to come!