

BETTER WINE

TEXT: John 2:1-11

In this passage, we look at the first sign of Jesus; turning water into wine at a wedding banquet. Jesus not only miraculously provides wine; he gives the best wine to those at the banquet. What does this sign tell us about the person and work of Christ? What does it tell us about our situation of need? Studying this passage helps us answer these questions. And a closer look shows us how this miracle reveals the glory of Jesus and the overflowing joy found only in him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **HEAD:** Questions aimed at our minds to help us *understand* God's word.

- In the Bible, when God works in unique and new ways, his work is often accompanied by miracles (for example- Creation or The Exodus). John calls these miracles signs. What do these miraculous works tell us about Jesus (see John 20:30-31)?
- Reflect for a moment on both the quantity (v.6-7) and the quality (v.10) of the wine Jesus provided. What does this tell us about the character of Jesus?

2. **HEART:** Questions aimed at our affections to help us *love* God.

- You can summarize this story in this way: Jesus fills what's empty with something far better than before. In what ways have you felt empty (past or present)? How does Jesus provide ultimate fulfillment for you in these areas of lack? (See also Psalm 145:6)
- J.C. Ryle comments on this passage: *A greater marriage feast than that of Cana will one day be held, when Christ Himself will be the bridegroom and believers will be the bride. A greater glory will one day be manifested when Jesus shall take to Himself His great power and reign. Blessed will they be on that day who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb! (Rev. 19:9).* Do you live in hopeful expectation of this future day? Why?

why not?

3. **HANDS:** Questions aimed at our hands to help us *live for* God (Personally, Communally, and Missionally).
 - The disciples saw the glory of Jesus and believed in him (v.11). How do you see the glory of Jesus on display today?
 - The first sign of Jesus was performed at a party. Jesus was socially engaged in celebratory events in the lives of others. What does this tell us about how we should engage in the mission of God?

DIG DEEPER

- Why Did Jesus Make So Much Wine? By Erik Raymond
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/erik-raymond/jesus-make-much-wine/>