

Jesus Turns Water into Wine

John 2:1-11

The first chapter of John gives convincing evidence of the Holiness of Jesus and proves him to be the “*Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*” (1:29). In verses 1-11 of chapter 2 He is shown at a wedding. This scene pictures Jesus concerned with, and involved in, the problems of ordinary everyday life. Ask yourself: “*Do I usually feel that I’m handling the day-to-day aspects of my life, and only need to call upon God for the biggies?*”

Read John 2:1-11

A wedding celebration in Jesus’ day could last as long as a week, and careful planning was required. To run out of any of the provisions would have been quite embarrassing and would have broken the rigid observance of hospitality. Why was the practice of hospitality so important? What does 1 Peter 4:9-10 say to us about practicing hospitality?

Jesus chose to participate in an everyday event because it involved people. Our mission doesn’t end when we leave the pew on Sunday. We are to bring our Lord into every relationship and aspect of our life.

v.2 – How is it that Jesus comes to be at the wedding? We should never be guilty of attempting to exclude Jesus from any area of our life. By way of His sacrifice for us at Calvary, He deserves inclusion in all we are and in all we do. He will stand at the door and knock (Revelation 3:20), He will not force His way into our lives. What does 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 say about our very bodies and the unity we ought to have with the Holy Spirit daily?

v.3 - This was a matter of honor. To run out of wine would cause public embarrassment for the groom and his family. This is a powerful reminder that we can take all our cares to Jesus (1 Peter 5:7). Others may see them as trivial, but Jesus understands our pain and feels our need. How does Hebrews 4:15 convey this fact?

Mary shows us just what we need to do when troubles occur in our lives. Mary took the problem to the Lord. What does Philippians 4:6 & 1 Peter 5:7 say regarding an item's importance before we can bring it to the Lord?

v.3-4 – John 21:25 says that Jesus did many things that were not written down. However v.11 clearly states that this was “*the first of His signs*”. Although Mary had been told that her son would be the Savior of His people (Matt 1:21), in the preceding 30 years Jesus had not preformed any miracles; so there’s no reason to believe she was anticipating one here.

We don’t know who is getting married but some commentators have suggested that Mary’s (v.3-5) authoritative instruction to the host’s servants indicate that Mary is likely related to the groom, and it would have been normal for her to assist in any host duties that might have become evident; saving the groom from shame due to a lack of hospitality.

Given her involvement in the proceedings (v.3,5) and the fact that Joseph has likely died by this time, it would be reasonable for her to ask her son to help her solve this problem and find some wine.

v.5 - The term "woman" was a polite and common form of address (like Ma’am). Jesus is simply reminding Mary that He has a greater agenda to fulfill than hers or that of the rest of the wedding party. Luke 2:51 tells us that Jesus was "obedient" to Mary and Joseph. Now, He is reminding His mother that it is time for Him to be about His Heavenly Father's business. What does Luke 8:20-21 reveal in regard to the respect and honor which God requires?

v.6 - Jesus took the ordinary and made it extraordinary. Look up 2 Corinthians 5:17 and describe an experience where you have seen God turn the ordinary into extraordinary.

v.7 - Mary was hoping Jesus might find some more wine. He chose to solve the problem how He deemed best. We must remember that God's ways are not our ways. Look up Isaiah 55:8-9 and explain the dangers of forgetting this.

V.10 - Look up: 1 Kings 17:2-6, Philippians 4:19, and consider how the Lord meets our needs in our immediate circumstances. What is the quality of God’s provisions? How is the quality determined?

v.11 - "His Disciples put their faith in Him." Our faith in Jesus is never misplaced. If we display, "mustard seed" faith (Matthew 17:20) in our hour of trial, Jesus will enter into that need and will move our mountain.

"He revealed His glory." Every time we experience the glory of God it ought to strengthen our faith and give us even greater hope for tomorrow. What does Hebrews 13:8 say what we can expect of Jesus, and His expectations of us?

Jesus is intertwined with every event of our life. He is not just some far off supernatural being who is separate from our lives. What does 2 Timothy 1:14 say regarding the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives? What does Matthew 10:29-31 reveal about God’s concern for even the smallest details of our everyday lives?

How ought that affect your general outlook, stress level, self-esteem, loneliness, despair, work ethic, prayer life, ministries, marriage, etc. etc.?