

Series: VII
Passage: John 2:1-11
Sunday: February 26, 2023

On February 26, we will be kicking off our Lent Series: “VII”. This is a series focused on the seven miracles of Jesus found in the Gospel of John.

John 2:1-11 (ESV)

The Wedding at Cana

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. **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.

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1. What is the worst “wedding disaster” that you have witnessed?
 2. Running out of wine was not just inconvenient, but a social disaster and disgrace. The family would have to live with the shame of it for a long time to come. What is Jesus’ first response when his mother asks him to do something about this crisis (verse 4)? Why do you think Jesus’ mother continued to push Jesus by telling the servants to do whatever he told them to do (verse 5)?
 3. What might have motivated Jesus to perform this miracle despite the fact that he believed his “time” had not come yet?

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4. This is only one of the two occasions we meet Jesus' mother in John's Gospel, the other being at the foot of the cross (John 19). How do these two events act as a set of bookends for Jesus' ministry and John's Gospel?

5. Jesus as the bridegroom and the Church as the bride is a common image used in the New Testament (i.e. Luke 5:33-35, Revelation 19:7-8). How does the image of a wedding help us understand what is in store for God's people?

6. This is the first of a series of miracles or signs to take us through Jesus' story. How is this miracle at the wedding an example of the transforming power of God's love?

7. The transformation from water to wine is meant by John to signify the effect that Jesus can have on people's lives. Where do you see Jesus' transforming power at work in your life? Where do you see it at work in the world today?