

August 27, 2023
Sermon Notes
The Gospel of John: S2E3
Jesus Changes Water into Wine

John 2:1-12

1 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." 4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, 9 and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." 11 This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

The Symbolism of John 2:1-12

- **The third day wedding**
 - **Vs. 1** On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee.
- **The wine was gone.**
 - **Vs 3** When the wine was gone, Jesus's mother said to him, "They have no more wine."
 - Mary brought Jesus's attention to the lack.
- **6 stone water jars**
 - **Vs. 6** Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Practical Takeaways:

1. **Christ's miracle followed obedience.**
 - a. **Mary exhibited faith and trust. Vs. 5** His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
 - b. **The servants exhibited obedience Vs. 7** Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. **8** Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so.
 - i. The lowest and most humble among them, "the servants", were the first to recognize the miracle.
2. **Christ's miracle created abundance and excellence where lack previously existed.**
 - a. **Excellence: Vs.9b** Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."
 - b. **Abundance: Vs.6** Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Practical Takeaway:

1. Obedience, faith, and trust are the catalyst of abundance.

Questions for Small Groups

1. How does the transformation of water into wine symbolize the shift from ritualistic religiosity to a personal relationship with Jesus?
2. In this story, Jesus reveals his divine identity through the miracle. How does recognizing Jesus as both fully human and fully divine impact our understanding of his ministry and teachings? How can we help others see Jesus in his full glory?
3. The master of the banquet was surprised by the abundance and quality of the wine Jesus provided. How can we experience the abundance of God's grace and blessings in our own lives? What might be some ways we limit ourselves from fully embracing the spiritual abundance Christ offers?
4. The wedding feast is a celebration of new beginnings. How can the transformation of water into wine inspire us to seek new beginnings and spiritual transformation in our own lives? What areas of our lives might need Jesus' transformative touch?
5. Mary's instruction to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you," led to the miracle. How can we cultivate the same kind of obedience and faith in responding to Jesus' instructions in our lives? What practical steps can we take to align our actions with Jesus' teachings?