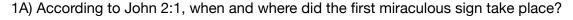


John 2:1-11 NIV: On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, 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 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." What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

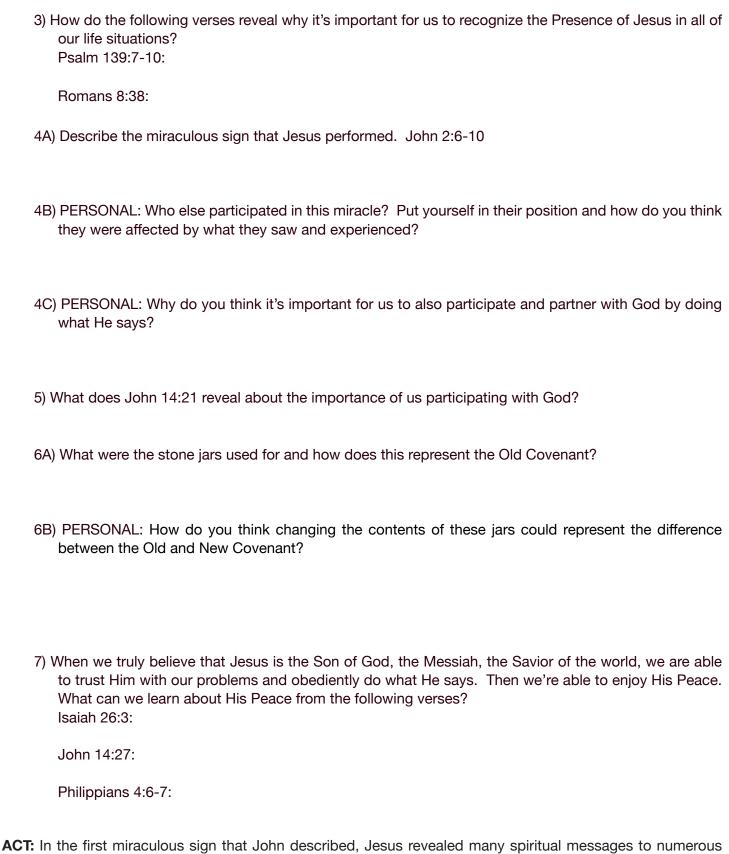
Belief in anything is normally based on the evidence of what we see, hear, or read and it can also depend on how much we trust the source of the evidence that we're given. In other words, we like to have proof! When we do have proof, it's so much easier for us to truly believe and to not doubt or waiver in our faith. The Apostle John wrote his entire Gospel with the intention of giving us all the proof we need that Jesus is the Messiah - the Son of God and this proof is found in the 7 miraculous signs of Jesus that John described for us. The Greek word John used for these signs was "semeion" which means - they were physical miracles with a spiritual message or meaning. This week we're looking at the first miraculous sign that John described.



1B) Who was there to witness this miraculous sign? Verses 1-2

What happened that created the need for a miracle? Verse 3

- 1C) PERSONAL: What was Jesus' initial response and why do you think He might have responded in this way?
- 2) PERSONAL: Give some different ways that you see Mary as an example to follow. Verses 3-5



ACT: In the first miraculous sign that John described, Jesus revealed many spiritual messages to numerous people. First He revealed that everything is important to God and that we should never hesitate to bring all of our problems to Him because He can work all things together for our good and His Glory! He also revealed through a visual, physical image that the ceremonially cleansing by water of the Old Covenant was going to be replaced by the complete spiritual cleansing that would be possible through the blood of Jesus - symbolized by the wine of the New Covenant. Wine making is usually a very slow process, but by Jesus transforming the water into Superior wine instantaneously, we see that He can transform us in the same way as we surrender and participate with Him and He will give us His amazing Peace.

<u>Daily Devotional:</u> It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

• This week let's explore passages that describe the Presence of God and why we need to recognize it.

Monday:

Psalm 16:11 NIV

You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Tuesday:

Psalm 21:6 NIV

Surely you have granted him unending blessings and made him glad with the joy of your presence.

Wednesday:

Psalm 31:19-20 NIV

How abundant are the good things that you have stored up for those who fear you, that you bestow in the sight of all, on those who take refuge in you. In the shelter of your presence you hide them from all human intrigues; you keep them safe in your dwelling from accusing tongues.

Thursday:

Psalm 89:15-18 NIV

Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, Lord. They rejoice in your name all day long; they celebrate your righteousness. For you are their glory and strength, and by your favor you exalt our horn. Indeed, our shield belongs to the Lord, our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Friday:

Hosea 6:2 NIV

After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.

Saturday:

Acts 2:28 NIV

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

Sunday:

1 John 3:16-19 NIV

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence:



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