

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

JOHN 2:1-11

Discussion 1: A Wedding to Remember

1. **Ice Breaker:** What is your favorite wedding you've attended and what made it special?
2. **Context:** What are some key truths we've learned so far in the book of John? Discuss what has just happened in his gospel to help prepare for our text today.
3. **Read** John 2:1-11. What are observations you have about this text? What sticks out to you?
4. In what ways are weddings used in the Scriptures to teach us about who Jesus is and what he will do? (See "Further Study" section for additional passages)

Discussion 2: Jesus' First Sign: Water to Wine

1. John begins the record of Jesus' public ministry in our passage. What do you think is significant about Jesus beginning his ministry and performing his first miracle/sign at a wedding? What does it say about Jesus that they invited him to the wedding? Is there any application for us?
2. What was it about running out of wine that would cause Mary to look to Jesus for help? How do the Scriptures discuss wine, and what does it generally symbolize? (See "Further Study" section for additional passages)
3. What does Jesus mean when he said, "my hour has not yet come"? How should we understand his response to his mother?
4. What is the significance that Jesus' wine is the best wine? What does it begin to tell us about Jesus and what he offers to the world? (see James 1:17, Matt. 7:11, Phil. 4:19)
5. Turning water into wine is the first of seven signs John records in his gospel. According to the text, what is the purpose of these miracles? What is God's broader purpose for performing signs and miracles?
6. What is the author's main point in telling us this historical account of Jesus ministry?

Discussion 3: Application

1. What does it mean for us that Jesus offers us the best? What are ways you are tempted to believe that Jesus is keeping you from joy or the best parts of life? What are ways to combat these temptations?
2. How has Jesus provided in better ways in your life than you could ever ask for?

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Family Discipleship Questions

1. How have you seen Jesus work in your family?
2. When is it hard for us to believe Jesus offers us better things than the world?
How can we remember as a family that all good things come from Jesus?

Further Application

1. **Group:** While it is not the point of our text, this could be a good opportunity to discuss a biblical view of alcohol as a group. Arm yourselves with grace and love as you discuss this topic if time allows. (See I Cor. 9 and some texts below for help when discussing Christian liberty)
2. **Group:** As a group, pray for the areas of your life where you desire Jesus to bring lasting and abundant joy. Pray that your group would be a conduit of joy as you remind one another of the promises awaiting us in Christ.

For Further Study

- **Weddings:** Gen. 1:24-25, Ruth 4:13-22, Matthew 22:1-14, Eph. 5:31-32, **Rev. 19:6-10**
- **Wine:** Duet. 7:11-13, **Psalm 4:6-7;104:14-15**, Prov. 20:1, **Is. 25:6-8**; 55:1, John 19:30, Eph. 5:18, Luke 22:17-18
- **Hour Has Come:** John 12:23; 16:32; 17:1, Mark 14:41
- **Purpose of Miracles:** John 20:30-31, Psalm 77:14, Ex. 7:5