

2020 Embracing a New Vision
Seeing the Character of God through a Mother's Eyes
Week #4
Small Group Notes
May 7 and 10

Main Point: A part of embracing a new vision is seeing Jesus' mission on earth and eternally.

Introduction:

What are some ways that we use the word "miracle" in our culture?

Has there been a life event that left you saying, "That was a miracle!"

Do you think people in general are skeptical of miracles? Why or why not?

A part of the miracle that we are going to see is how God can take where I am and give me a vision of where I can be.

Discuss:

1. Read John 2:1-5

Sermon points: God doesn't just see me where I am, but where I can be.

Explain: Although Jesus words may seem harsh to us, He was respectfully clarifying that His life and mission would be determined by His Heavenly Father, not earthly relationships. Mary had a clear picture of how Jesus could help her friends. However, in that moment of crisis, she didn't seem to have the same grasp on the reason Jesus had come into the world. As He reminded her, His work had to be done in a way that accomplished His mission.

Ask:

How have you seen Jesus meet your needs? How does this show that He cares for you?

Jesus' miracles point beyond the temporary need to an eternal perspective, how do you see that in Jesus' response?

What are other examples in the Bible of Jesus showing care immediately and pointing to His mission?

2. Read John 2:6-8

Sermon points:

- Jesus' mom was able to see Jesus for who He truly was
- Seeing Jesus as He truly is, we should do whatever He tells us as well.
- Embracing a new vision means expecting Jesus to do big things, but not tell Him how to do them.

Explain: Jesus didn't hesitate to meet the need that Mary brought to Him. Once she shared it with Him, He turned His attention to meeting it by instructing the servants to fill six stone water jars.

Ask:

How does this story teach us to ask the Lord for what we need more than what we want?

What examples do you see of obedience in this passage?

**What does it look like in your family to learn to trust and obey the Lord?
How can this season be difficult to trust and obey?**

3. Read John 2:9-10

Sermon point:

- Jesus didn't add something to the water; He transformed it.

Explain: After the servants filled the pots to the brim with water, Jesus performed a miracle. He turned the water into wine, and the chief servant made the first declaration about it. The chief servant must have been responsible for making sure the guests enjoyed themselves. Tasting the sample that had been given to him, he registered his surprise at the quality of the wine and complemented the groom for providing it. He went on to point out that usually the best wine was served first.

What is an example of where you have seen the Lord work behind the scenes and not realize it? How can we be more aware that Jesus is working? What difference would it make in our lives if we were more aware?

What does Jesus' meeting this need teach us about Jesus' concern for our needs and His ability to meet them? Does this mean that Jesus will meet every need we bring to Him in the way we desire? Why or why not?

4. Read John 2:11-12

Sermon point:

- Embracing a new vision means remembering that, for the people of God, the best is always yet to come.

Explain: Reflecting on the miracle leads us to see the wisdom in making Christ the Lord of our lives. If He has the power to turn water into wine, we can count on Him to turn our sorrow into joy as we serve Him. In addition, we can rest in the assurance that He's concerned about what impacts us. Therefore, we can trust Him to guide us through our struggles in a way that will glorify Him.

How have you discovered that what Jesus offers is far superior to what the world offers?

How does Jesus' first miracle encourage us to hang on until the end? What difference should it make in our lives to know there are more and better things to come?

Do:

How has your mother or a woman of influence in your life encouraged you in the Lord? What can you do this week to let them know how they helped you to embrace a new perspective in the Lord?

Share with someone how this discussion has helped you to see the difference in things temporarily to eternally.