

Lesson 2 [Chapter 2]" The wedding at Cana"

Remember:

John Chapter 1 introduces Jesus as the divine "Word" (Logos) who existed with God and created all things, He took flesh and became God incarnate and lived among humanity, bringing grace and truth. It introduces John the Baptist, who identifies Jesus as the "Lamb of God," baptizes Him, and sees the Spirit descend. The chapter concludes with Jesus calling His first disciples.

Lesson Goal:

To learn that obedience to Jesus ("Do whatever He tells you") allows us to see His miraculous Hand working in us, even in small, seemingly insignificant tasks.

Lesson Opener:

TASTE TEST

Have a selection of branded and unbranded foods and drinks. Be sure to check for allergies. Place the items onto labelled plates or cups without anyone else seeing. For example: Branded cola in cup A – Unbranded cola in cup B. Make a note of which is which.

During the activity, players should taste the items and guess which is the branded item and mark which they prefer.

Talk about how the wine Jesus made from the water was the best wine. It was brand name.

Or THE MAGIC DRINK:

Have you ever seen a miracle? It could seem like a magic trick but more powerful. I want to show you a little trick now. I'm going to take this ordinary water (hold up water in a clear glass or bottle) and transform it into something new! Does that sound strange?

Just watch. I mean, I like drinking water but sometimes I want something more exciting and flavorful. Well, what if I took this plain water, and I poured it into another glass? (As you speak, pour the water into another clear cup with drink powder hidden at the bottom. Watch as the liquid and powder blend to make a new juice.) Wow! It's something completely new now! This will be a much more interesting beverage to enjoy.

Well, that was not exactly a magic trick or a miracle, was it? In fact, that was just the trick of a little drink powder in the bottom of a glass. But there are a lot of times in the

Bible when we read of Jesus doing amazing miracles not like my trick, nothing is impossible for Him.

Lesson Body:

Water Turned to Wine 2:1-12

Do you know the first miracle that Jesus ever did? He transformed water, too! Only He didn't use drink mix. You see, Jesus was at a wedding, and in those days, weddings lasted a few days and included a lot of eating and drinking in celebration. Well, something unfortunate happened: the wedding ran out of wine! That would be like going to a birthday party and not having any cake. It would make the host look bad and make the guests a little upset.

St. Mary probably was not only one of the guests but one of the family. This would explain why she realized that they had run out of wine. The guest would not have known that, only those hosting the wedding would be concerned.

Now, running out of wine might not seem like the most important thing to be concerned about, but St. Mary knew that Jesus would care, and that He could do something about the situation. She came to Him and told Him what was going on.

The request is made in a spirit of humbleness as a person presents the situation without offering the solution to God and as though claiming to be more knowledgeable or more loving to others than the almighty Lord. She didn't tell Him what to do. She knows He will take care of the problem His own way.

At first, He tried to tell her it wasn't yet His time to be demonstrating divine power. But St. Mary believed in Him. She knew He could do anything, and she told the servants to obey His instructions and do whatever He told them to do. **Verse 5: His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."**

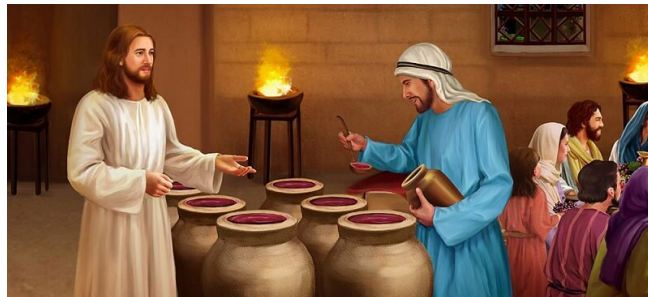
This is the role of our mother Saint Mary and all the saints: to draw our attention to our Lord and obey Him completely → The Intercessions of the saints

Jesus told the servants to fill some large jars up with water and serve it to the master of the house. They did what He asked, filling the jars with water. Only instead of plain water, when they served the master, he drank wine! Not only that, but the best kind of wine, and he commended the groom for saving the better wine for later in the celebration. With the belief of St. Mary and obedience of the servants, Jesus kept the guests well supplied!

This miracle, the first one we read about in the Bible, reminds us of a couple of special things. First, it tells us that God truly cares about our lives, even the little details. He wants us to enjoy life, and even something like running out of drinks matters to Him.

We also see how important it is to trust that Jesus can do anything. He continues to do miracles now. When you think about it, there are many marvelous little miracles that happen every single day. Even just waking up in the morning or taking a breath are miracles in a sense. Jesus is still present with us. He loves us and cares about us. He can make amazing things happen in our lives.

Whether it's something as simple as finding your favorite flavor at the ice cream store, or healing after being hurt or sick, God is working in every aspect of our lives. And He's already done the greatest miracle, conquering death to pay for our sins! So, we can give thanks each and every day for all the moments, big and small, in which we recognize the presence of Christ. Let's pray and thank God for marvelous miracles every day...



Jesus Cleanses the Temple 2:13-22

Use can use this video for little kids to illustrate how cleaning something restores its value

https://sermons4kids.com/sermons/jesus-cleans-the-temple?srltid=AfmBOop8fj2tg8_9PBfYCU2ECwuvdPJ2AClq1UWPQVDZKR_I8ROjFvoG

Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover. All Jews from everywhere, were called by God to go to Jerusalem to celebrate this feast in the temple. They need to sacrifice perfect animals to cover for their sins.

This is the first Passover that occurs after the Baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ. The second is mentioned in Luke 6:1; the third in John 6:4; and the fourth falls on the day the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified (Jn 11:55). Many scholars believe that the Lord purified the temple on two occasions: once during the first Passover which took place at the beginning of His service and as it is mentioned in St. John's Gospel; and again, a second time during the fourth and last Passover which was at the time of the Lord's crucifixion (Matt 21:12; Mk 11:15; Lk 19:45).

People would come to Jerusalem and use the money of their land to buy an animal to sacrifice to God. And now there were people who made their money by bringing a bunch of animals to the temple to sell to those visitors.

A scourge of cords is a sort of a whip. It is something to get their attention and GET THEM OUT! He drove the sellers and the animals out of the temple.

What else did He do? (He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables) And what about the doves? (he told them to take them away)

Why did He do this? What did He say to them?

(Stop making My Father's house a place of business.)

What did Jesus call the temple?

(My Father's house) He did this because the Temple was a HOLY place. It was a special place. It was God's house. The business owners that were doing business in God's house weren't treating it like it was God's house, like it was HOLY. The Lord went up to Jerusalem in order to purify His Father's temple which had become a house of trade.

Zeal is a very special word. It is HOLY anger. God's house was supposed to be a HOLY place, a place that was different than other places. A place where people could meet with God! But these people who were selling animals and changing money in God's house, do you think they were keeping God's house special? (no).

Instead of admitting the corruption that had taken place in the temple, the Jewish leaders asked Jesus like that (What sign do You show us as Your authority for doing these things?).

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in 3 days I will raise it up."

Ummm....does that seem like a strange sign to you? (YES!) He didn't do a miracle like He did at the wedding, did He? (No!) What does it mean then?

He is talking about His body! He is going to die and three days later He will rise again!!

Now, did the Jews understand what Jesus was saying? Did they see and understand the sign? Let's look at what they said, verse 20:

The Jews then said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?"

How long did it take to build the temple?

(46 years)

Can Jesus build it in three days if He wanted to?

(Yes! He can do anything!)

Let's read on, verse 21:

But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

What was He referring to?

(His body! Yes, and He is going to die on the cross and He will be buried in a tomb and then He rise again in 3 days)

But we know Jesus is speaking of the resurrection because we know that is what happened. [Has all that happened at this moment in time?](#)

(No!) So, [can they know all He says here about the temple is about Himself?](#) (No!) Let's read the next verse, verse 22:

So, when He rose from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

[When did the disciples understand what Jesus had said?](#)

(They remembered this day and understood what He meant after the resurrection.)

The Discerner of Hearts 2:23-25

Verse 23-24: They believed that He was the awaited Messiah, but they did not comprehend that He was the Savior of the world. Rather, they imagined that He was the King of Israel who would free them from the Romans. Consequently, the Lord did not place His trust in them.

Those last couple of verses in chapter 2 mention that Jesus KNOWS all men. He KNOWS what they believe about Him. He KNOWS whether they are following Him to see the miracles or because they believe He is God. Jesus can see their hearts. Why can Jesus see into men's hearts? (because He is GOD!)

Takeaway:

A. GOD IS A MIRACLE WORKER (JOHN 2:11)

The wine ran out; this is a shameful situation.

Don't we all have situations like this in our lives, where we need God's intervention?

We can always trust God to care for us in those moments. Any situation, which is impossible for us, is possible for God because He is a miracle worker.

B. WE SHOULD TRUST GOD WITH OUR PROBLEMS (JOHN 2:3)

While others began to panic, St. Mary knew exactly what to do. She took the situation to Jesus. There is no issue too small or problem too big for Him to care.

(See: Mat 6:26)

We should trust Jesus not only with the difficult situations but our entire lives because He knows the best for us and can turn a hopeless mess into a miracle.

C. WE SHOULD DO WHATEVER JESUS TELLS US (JOHN 2:5)

As we walk with God, we must learn to do whatever He tells us. In Jesus Christ, we find the perfect model of obedience and as His followers we are called to follow His example.

D. GOD ONLY DOES THE BEST (JOHN 2:10)

The wine that Jesus made was “Brand name wine”. From this, we can learn that man’s best is never equal to God’s best.

God’s gifts are always the best (James 1:17).

Each year companies launch the newest best products, yet very quickly they become second best. God will never be outdone. God loves to show mercy. His goodness has no end.

CONCLUSION

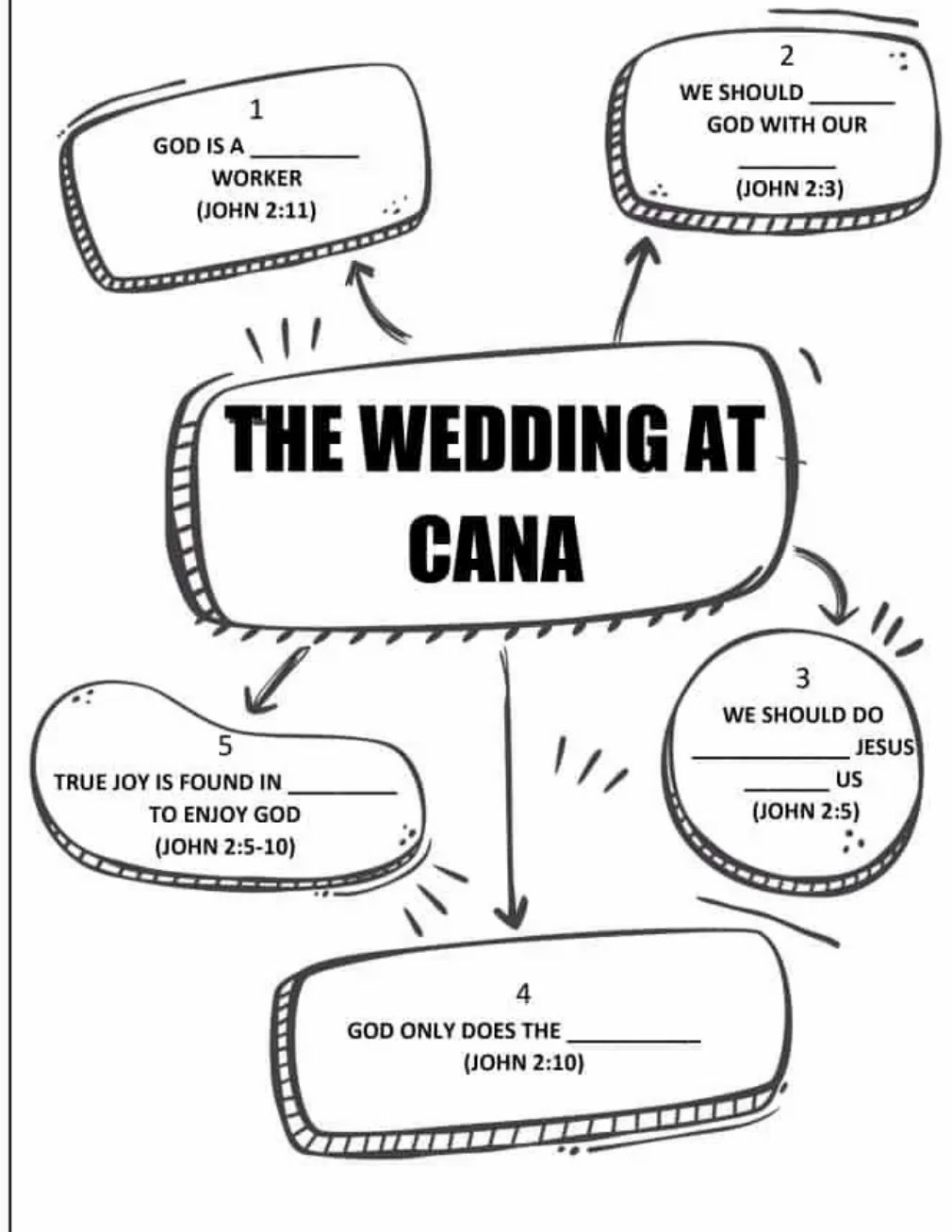
In conclusion, review the following and pray with them to round up the lesson:

1. When we trust in God, we will never be put to shame.
2. God specializes in turning a mess into a miracle.
3. When we obey God, we give Him the space to work miracles.
4. God does the best things for His children.

Memory Verse:

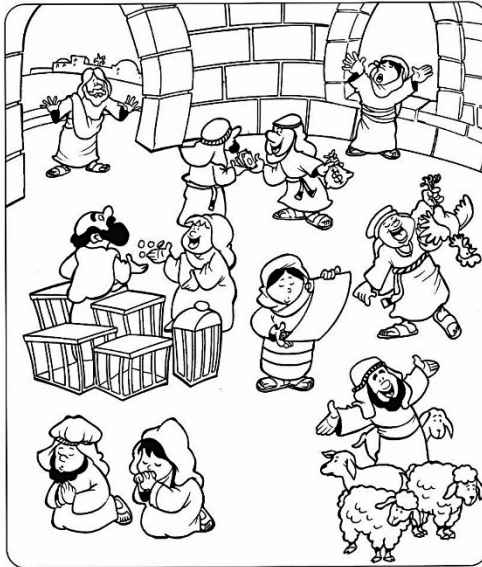
Jn 2:5 His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”

STUDY NOTES MIND MAP



Jesus cleanses the Temple

Jesus went to the Temple in Jerusalem. When he saw people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and people trading with money-changers- right there in the Temple - he was upset. "Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" he cried out! In these drawings of Jesus cleansing the Temple, can you find 10 things that are different?



ANSWERS:
1. The chicken has changed position. 2. The money bag is bigger. 3. There is one more sheep.
4. The praying people are distracted by the noise. 5. The cage where he has lost his bag board.
6. One of the cages has been moved. 7. The woman crying probes in the back has stripes on her robe.
8. The scroll is now much longer. 9. Jesus has black hair. 10. The doves are escaping.



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Jesus turned over the tables of the money changers in the _____.

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