



Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide For the Week of November 28, 2021

Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. You do not have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.

Connect

- What is the most memorable wedding you have ever been part of? What made it memorable?
- Share about the funniest or most unusual thing you've witnessed at a wedding?
- Share about something that went wrong or did not go as planned at a wedding you were involved in?

The Context

Today, we see the first miracle and sign of Jesus in the Gospel of John. At the wedding in Cana, they ran out of wine. It was more than simply running short of a certain party supply. Wine was central to an ancient, near eastern feast. When the wine was gone, the party was over. In such a shame-and-honor society, this sort of faux pas was serious as weddings were large community events that oftentimes lasted for up to seven days. Jesus solves this problem in a surprising and powerful way. He often does this. This passage is filled with signs, symbols, and future implications of Jesus' ministry and work of salvation. However, it is also a display of the power, compassion, and care of Jesus for us. Let's discover more.

Engage the Bible - Read and Review Surprises, Takeaways, and Observations from:

John 2:1-12 NIV

"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 "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour 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 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. 12 After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days."

Discuss

1. Have you ever experienced God telling you to do something that didn't seem to make sense? How did it turn out?

2. Describe the miracle Jesus performs. While Mary may not have been expecting a miracle here, what do her statements to Jesus reveal about her expectations of her son?
3. Reflect for a moment on both the quantity (v.6-7) and the quality (v.10) of the wine Jesus provided. What does this tell us about the character of Jesus?
4. A sign is meant to point to something. What does this sign reveal about Jesus' mission and identity? What does this wedding miracle (sign) reveal about Jesus' power? His authority?
5. How did Jesus' first sign affect His disciples (vs. 11)? How does a sign about a wedding and abundance inform your own relationship with God?
6. Why do people believe in miracles/not believe in miracles? Describe your response to this miracle (amazement, skepticism, etc.). Be honest.
7. How have you seen God provide in a miraculous way?
8. The groom in this story had a "near miss." If Jesus hadn't showed up in time, he was in a bad situation. How has God showed up just in time for you?
9. List some ways God has met your needs. How does remembering God's provision in the past encourage you to trust him with your present and future needs?
10. Jesus saved this groom from embarrassment and gave him a great blessing. How has Jesus done something similar for you?
11. Why is it important for us to obey, even when we don't understand God's methods or plan? How does action demonstrate faith more than inaction does?
12. How does this miracle and story inform your faith and thoughts about Jesus?
13. Have you ever struggled to trust Jesus? How does this story challenge you to trust him more?
14. Have you truly experienced what Jesus provides as being better than the other things you feast upon? In what way? If not, what adjustments do think might need to be made to experience this?
15. The disciples saw the glory of Jesus and believed in him (v.11). How do you see the glory of Jesus on display today?
16. Is there something God is asking you to do now in obedience to him? What is it? What has your response been? Why? How can we help?

End Your Group Time in Prayer