

I want us to join Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, & Nathanael, the first followers of Jesus, as they/we are exposed to Jesus and what He's like. After being with these men for just two days, they are all invited to a wedding. It was on that festive occasion that Jesus did His first sign & 'manifested the Father's glory!'

There are 7 signs (Grk. *sēmeiōn*, 2:11,23, 3:2, 4:54, 6:2,14,26,30, 7:31, 9:16, 10:41, 11:47, 12:18,37, 20:30) in John's Gospel: water into wine, the healing of a royal official's son, the healing of an impotent man, the feeding of the 5000, walking across the waves to the disciples, the healing of the blind man, the raising of Lazarus from the dead. We realize Jesus did dozens of 'signs', but as John looked back and remembered, he chose 7 because of what they communicate.

Most of the signs are followed by Jesus teaching what the signs point to. For example: Feeding of the 5000: He is the Bread of life. The healing of the blind man: He is the Light of the world. The raising of Lazarus: He is the Resurrection & the Life. All are reminders of what we learned about Jesus in **John 1**. They are evidences that Jesus is our Lord and our God, the Christ, the Son of God (20:28,31). They are so we will believe and have life in His name.

The location of the first sign was at a village wedding feast in Cana of Galilee (9 miles N of Nazareth?). In Western weddings the bride is the prominent figure. In Eastern weddings it is the groom. He even pays for everything! Some of these weddings went on for days! Running out of supplies (especially wine) would be an embarrassment for the groom, a never-forgotten memory!

**Read 2:1-12. :1-2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; :2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 1:35** The first day of Jesus' public ministry. **1:43** The 2<sup>nd</sup> day. **2:1** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, Jesus along with His disciples were invited to a wedding.

Marriage is a sacred union of a man and woman where they become one. What God has brought together, let no man separate (Mt. 19:6). Apparently Jesus' mother Mary was responsible for parts of the wedding. Perhaps a wedding of one of Jesus' younger brothers or sisters?

**:3-5 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." :4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us (lit. what to Me and to you)? My hour has not yet come." :5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."** Obviously drunkenness was condemned, but what was a Jewish wedding without wine!? The rabbis said, "Without wine, there is no joy!" The wine at this wedding ran out!!

**:3** Mary, Jesus' mother, told Him about the problem. She didn't ask Him to do anything about it; she merely told Him. Perhaps a request for help, although she certainly wasn't expecting a miracle because this was the first miracle He performed. Perhaps as the eldest son, He had been providing for the family needs (Joseph may have passed on). Those who know Jesus well instinctively turn to Him when help is needed. "Jesus! Help!"

**:4** Jesus responded: "Woman, what is that to Me and you?" 'Woman' was a title of respect (see 4:21, 19:26, 20:13,15, Mt. 15:28, Lk. 13:12). Remember, Jesus had just been baptized, then tempted in the wilderness for 40 days, and

was just now beginning His public ministry. He was living by the purpose and will of the Father. "**My hour has not yet come.**" We know His hour didn't come until three years later (7:30, 8:20, 12:23,27, 13:1, 17:1). In the meantime, He would do what the Father wanted Him to do, not pressured by people or even current needs. Jesus saw His life in terms of the Father's will for Him. He was playing His life out to an audience of One, believing the Father would do through Him what needed to be done. So freeing! See **Acts 2:22**. And here we see a situation where Jesus initially refused the request, & then proceeded to help in His own way. The Father led Jesus to get involved.

**:5** Mary said to the assistants (table waiters) at the wedding, "**Whatever He says to you, do it.**" This is advice for the ages! "Whatever He says to you, do it!" For those who tend to focus on 'Mary', listen to her words!

**:6-7 Now there were six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each (lit. two or three measures). :7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the water pots with water."**

**:6** Water pots were present in accordance with the Jewish rites of purification. The water was required for cleansing the feet and the hands on entry to a house. If not done, the hands were considered unclean. These six water pots would contain at least 120-180 gallons of water!

**:7** As far as we know, there was no prayer, no word of command, no touching the water, no hysterical shouting. It wasn't a show. There was a need, and Jesus was so tuned in with His Father and His will, that the Father had Him meet it. The water simply became wine. Just like the Creation, God called into being something that didn't exist in those pots (see **Rom. 4:17**).

**:8-10 So they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter (or steward)." So they took it to him. :9 When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, :10 and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now."**

**:8** The headwaiter or steward was the coordinator for the events of the wedding and the following days. Jesus told the servants to draw some water out and take it to the headwaiter. The servants, who were the only ones who knew where the liquid came from, took the liquid to the man.

**:9-10** He tasted this water which had become wine, and said "We will serve no wine before its time!" Actually he called the groom and said, "Every person serves the good wine first and then when everyone is a bit 'joyful', he serves the inferior wine. But you(!) have kept the good wine until now! Way to go!" The groom was apparently smart enough to keep his mouth shut!

When touched by the will of God, the 120 gallons of water were changed from the ordinary to the extraordinary. God wants to bring joy and abundance to our lives. Christians filled with the Spirit and sensitive to the Father's leading can bring joy (a fruit of the Holy Spirit) to everyday events.

Whenever Jesus comes into a person's life, there comes a new quality which is like turning water into wine, the taste of new wine (**read Mk. 2:21-22**). Jesus wants to give us something so much better than what we have. Men do the ordinary, but Jesus touches it, and brings it to life, and gives it impact, fruit, flavor. This is what the ministry of Jesus is going to be like whenever He touches a human life, whenever He touches your life or others through you!

**:11 This beginning of His signs (or attesting miracles) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.** They made the choice to continue to believe in Him and follow Him.

The age of the Messiah had begun. The hour wasn't yet fully there, but it had begun. Water to wine was the first of the seven signs the apostle John picked out. This was one of those 'greater things' Jesus talked about in **1:50**. But, the question is, "What did the sign 'SIGN'IFY? Signs are not merely miracles (displays of power); they are miracles that have a meaning. "The word stresses the spiritual significance of the miracle and points away from itself to Jesus who performed it." The signs revealed aspects of the person or work of Jesus (here His—actually the Father's—glory), and their purpose was to encourage faith in HIM. Jesus will make Himself the issue throughout the Gospel.

Here was One who could handle the problems of life. The disciples believed IN HIM for the first time. They chose to continue following Him. One chooses to believe or not believe, to follow or not follow. See **6:67-69**. You see the sign and the One who did it, and you either accept or reject Him. If we choose to believe, then we will see His glory. But it begins with faith in who He is. This sign revealed Jesus in His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father (**1:14**). In the midst of witnesses/testimonies/signs stands Jesus.

Also notice, the sign was just for the disciples, no one else. Many at the wedding experienced the sign; but only the believers deepened their faith in Him, not in what He can do but in who He is.

**:12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He & His mother & brothers & His disciples; & they stayed there a few days.** Capernaum lay on the NW shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and His mother Mary and brothers (younger children of Joseph and Mary, born after Jesus (**Mt. 13:55-56, Mk. 6:3**)).

Here is the always-existing One, the Word, face to face with God, was God, Creator, Life, the always shining Light, who became flesh, a Man who was physically born after John in terms of time yet existed before John, the only begotten God, the Lamb of God, the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, rabbi/teacher, Messiah/Christ, Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man. JESUS is who/what John's Gospel is all about. May Jesus be who we are all about! Do we believe in Him?

Also, like Jesus, if a need is revealed to you, ask the Father how He wants you involved, and do what you can. He'll work through you. What impact does this passage have on your mind being renewed? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

Practical Ways to **Apply** God's Word:

1. Start with Jesus (Mt. 11:28-30) and fix your focus on Him (**Heb. 12:1-3**). Practice ECRAT: Examine, Confess, Review, Allow, and Thank.
2. As part of your immediate family, you have a responsible role to play as a husband, wife, parent, child (see **Mt. 19:3-6, Eph. 5:18-6:4, Col. 3:18-21**). Be sure you're remaining true to who God has made you.
3. Then as part of the Family of God, pray for, love, be hospitable to, and serve one another, using your Spirit-given gifts (1 Pet. 4:7-11). Also, consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Heb. 10:24-25). Do good to all Gal. 6:10.
4. Then as an individual Christian: **Rom. 12:9-21, 1 Cor. 13:1-8a, Eph. 4:20-6:18, and 1 Pet. 2:11-3:17** spell out how Jesus will live out His life and love uniquely through you as you trust Him, rest in Him.
5. Be careful who you listen to and what you watch and read, what you're continually thinking about. Choose & be a good role model. Be sure there's a steady input from God's Word. Pray without ceasing. Realize there's a glorious, certain, guaranteed future for you and every other Christian.

Remember, this is a life and love only Jesus through the Holy Spirit can live in/through you! Yet He will as you by faith run the race set before you (**Heb. 12:1-2a**). Lessons you learned? Applications you made? Questions you have? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

I want us to join Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, & Nathanael, the first followers of Jesus, as they/we are exposed to Jesus and what He's like. After being with these men for just two days, they are all invited to a wedding. It was on that festive occasion that Jesus did His first sign & 'manifested the Father's glory!'

There are 7 signs (Grk. *sēmeiōn*, **2:11,23, 3:2, 4:54, 6:2,14,26,30, 7:31, 9:16, 10:41, 11:47, 12:18,37, 20:30**) in John's Gospel: water into wine, the healing of a royal official's son, the healing of an impotent man, the feeding of the 5000, walking across the waves to the disciples, the healing of the blind man, the raising of Lazarus from the dead. We realize Jesus did dozens of 'signs', but as John looked back and remembered, he chose 7 because of what they communicate.

Most of the signs are followed by Jesus teaching what the signs point to. For example: Feeding of the 5000: He is the Bread of life. The healing of the blind man: He is the Light of the world. The raising of Lazarus: He is the Resurrection & the Life. All are reminders of what we learned about Jesus in **John 1**. They are evidences that Jesus is our Lord and our God, the Christ, the Son of God (**20:28,31**). They are so we will believe and have life in His name.

The location of the first sign was at a village wedding feast in Cana of Galilee (9 miles N of Nazareth?). In Western weddings the bride is the prominent figure. In Eastern weddings it is the groom. He even pays for everything! Some of these weddings went on for days! Running out of supplies (especially wine) would be an embarrassment for the groom, a never-forgotten memory!

**Read 2:1-12. :1-2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; :2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 1:35** The first day of Jesus' public ministry. **1:43** The 2<sup>nd</sup> day. **2:1** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, Jesus along with His disciples were invited to a wedding.

Marriage is a sacred union of a man and woman where they become one. What God has brought together, let no man separate (**Mt. 19:6**). Apparently Jesus' mother Mary was responsible for parts of the wedding. Perhaps a wedding of one of Jesus' younger brothers or sisters?

**:3-5 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." :4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us (lit. what to Me and to you)? My hour has not yet come." :5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."** Obviously drunkenness was condemned, but what was a Jewish wedding without wine!?! The rabbis said, "Without wine, there is no joy!" The wine at this wedding ran out!!

**:3** Mary, Jesus' mother, told Him about the problem. She didn't ask Him to do anything about it; she merely told Him. Perhaps a request for help, although she certainly wasn't expecting a miracle because this was the first miracle He performed. Perhaps as the eldest son, He had been providing for the family needs (Joseph may have passed on). Those who know Jesus well instinctively turn to Him when help is needed. "Jesus! Help!"

**:4** Jesus responded: **"Woman, what is that to Me and you?"** 'Woman' was a title of respect (see **4:21, 19:26, 20:13,15, Mt. 15:28, Lk. 13:12**). Remember, Jesus had just been baptized, then tempted in the wilderness for 40 days, and

was just now beginning His public ministry. He was living by the purpose and will of the Father. **“My hour has not yet come.”** We know His hour didn’t come until three years later (**7:30, 8:20, 12:23,27, 13:1, 17:1**). In the meantime, He would do what the Father wanted Him to do, not pressured by people or even current needs. Jesus saw His life in terms of the Father’s will for Him. He was playing His life out to an audience of One, believing the Father would do through Him what needed to be done. So freeing! See **Acts 2:22**. And here we see a situation where Jesus initially refused the request, & then proceeded to help in His own way. The Father led Jesus to get involved.

**:5** Mary said to the assistants (table waiters) at the wedding, **“Whatever He says to you, do it.”** This is advice for the ages! “Whatever He says to you, do it!” For those who tend to focus on ‘Mary’, listen to her words!

**:6-7** Now there were six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each (lit. two or three measures). **:7** Jesus said to them, **“Fill the water pots with water.”**

**:6** Water pots were present in accordance with the Jewish rites of purification. The water was required for cleansing the feet and the hands on entry to a house. If not done, the hands were considered unclean. These six water pots would contain at least 120-180 gallons of water!

**:7** As far as we know, there was no prayer, no word of command, no touching the water, no hysterical shouting. It wasn’t a show. There was a need, and Jesus was so tuned in with His Father and His will, that the Father had Him meet it. The water simply became wine. Just like the Creation, God called into being something that didn’t exist in those pots (see **Rom. 4:17**).

**:8-10** So they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, **“Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter (or steward).”** So they took it to him.

**:9** When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, **:10** and said to him, **“Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.”**

**:8** The headwaiter or steward was the coordinator for the events of the wedding and the following days. Jesus told the servants to draw some water out and take it to the headwaiter. The servants, who were the only ones who knew where the liquid came from, took the liquid to the man.

**:9-10** He tasted this water which had become wine, and said “We will serve no wine before its time!” Actually he called the groom and said, “Every person serves the good wine first and then when everyone is a bit ‘joyful’, he serves the inferior wine. But you(!) have kept the good wine until now! Way to go!” The groom was apparently smart enough to keep his mouth shut!

When touched by the will of God, the 120 gallons of water were changed from the ordinary to the extraordinary. God wants to bring joy and abundance to our lives. Christians filled with the Spirit and sensitive to the Father’s leading can bring joy (a fruit of the Holy Spirit) to everyday events.

Whenever Jesus comes into a person's life, there comes a new quality which is like turning water into wine, the taste of new wine (**read Mk. 2:21-22**). Jesus wants to give us something so much better than what we have. Men do the ordinary, but Jesus touches it, and brings it to life, and gives it impact, fruit, flavor. This is what the ministry of Jesus is going to be like whenever He touches a human life, whenever He touches your life or others through you!

**:11 This beginning of His signs (or attesting miracles) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.** They made the choice to continue to believe in Him and follow Him.

The age of the Messiah had begun. The hour wasn't yet fully there, but it had begun. Water to wine was the first of the seven signs the apostle John picked out. This was one of those 'greater things' Jesus talked about in **1:50**. But, the question is, "What did the sign 'SIGN'IFY? Signs are not merely miracles (displays of power); they are miracles that have a meaning. "The word stresses the spiritual significance of the miracle and points away from itself to Jesus who performed it." The signs revealed aspects of the person or work of Jesus (here His—actually the Father's—glory), and their purpose was to encourage faith in HIM. Jesus will make Himself the issue throughout the Gospel.

Here was One who could handle the problems of life. The disciples believed IN HIM for the first time. They chose to continue following Him. One chooses to believe or not believe, to follow or not follow. See **6:67-69**. You see the sign and the One who did it, and you either accept or reject Him. If we choose to believe, then we will see His glory. But it begins with faith in who He is. This sign revealed Jesus in His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father (**1:14**). In the midst of witnesses/testimonies/signs stands Jesus.

Also notice, the sign was just for the disciples, no one else. Many at the wedding experienced the sign; but only the believers deepened their faith in Him, not in what He can do but who He is.

**:12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He & His mother & brothers & His disciples; & they stayed there a few days.** Capernaum lay on the NW shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and His mother Mary and brothers (younger children of Joseph and Mary, born after Jesus (**Mt. 13:55-56, Mk. 6:3**)).

Here is the always-existing One, the Word, face to face with God, was God, Creator, Life, the always shining Light, who became flesh, a Man who was physically born after John in terms of time yet existed before John, the only begotten God, the Lamb of God, the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, rabbi/teacher, Messiah/Christ, Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man. JESUS is who/what John's Gospel is all about. May Jesus be who we are all about! Do we believe in Him?

Also, like Jesus, if a need is revealed to you, ask the Father how He wants you involved, and do what you can. He'll work through you. What impact does this passage have on your mind being renewed? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

Practical Ways to **Apply** God's Word:

1. Start with Jesus (**Mt. 11:28-30**) and fix your focus on Him (**Heb. 12:1-3**). Practice ECRAT: Examine, Confess, Review, Allow, and Thank.
2. As part of your immediate family, you have a responsible role to play as a husband, wife, parent, child (see **Mt. 19:3-6, Eph. 5:18-6:4, Col. 3:18-21**). Be sure you're remaining true to who God has made you.
3. Then as part of the Family of God, pray for, love, be hospitable to, and serve one another, using your Spirit-given gifts (**1 Pet. 4:7-11**). Also, consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (**Heb. 10:24-25**). Do good to all **Gal. 6:10**.
4. Then as an individual Christian: **Rom. 12:9-21, 1 Cor. 13:1-8a, Eph. 4:20-6:18, and 1 Pet. 2:11-3:17** spell out how Jesus will live out His life and love uniquely through you as you trust Him, rest in Him.
5. Be careful who you listen to and what you watch and read, what you're continually thinking about. Choose & be a good role model. Be sure there's a steady input from God's Word. Pray without ceasing. Realize there's a glorious, certain, guaranteed future for you and every other Christian.

Remember, this is a life and love only Jesus through the Holy Spirit can live in/through you! Yet He will as you by faith run the race set before you (**Heb. 12:1-2a**). Lessons you learned? Applications you made? Questions you have? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

I want us to join Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, & Nathanael, the first followers of Jesus, as they/we are exposed to Jesus and what He's like. After being with these men for just two days, they are all invited to a wedding. It was on that festive occasion that Jesus did His first sign & 'manifested the Father's glory!'

There are 7 signs (Grk. *sēmeiōn*, 2:11,23, 3:2, 4:54, 6:2,14,26,30, 7:31, 9:16, 10:41, 11:47, 12:18,37, 20:30) in John's Gospel: water into wine, the healing of a royal official's son, the healing of an impotent man, the feeding of the 5000, walking across the waves to the disciples, the healing of the blind man, the raising of Lazarus from the dead. We realize Jesus did dozens of 'signs', but as John looked back and remembered, he chose 7 because of what they communicate.

Most of the signs are followed by Jesus teaching what the signs point to. For example: Feeding of the 5000: He is the Bread of life. The healing of the blind man: He is the Light of the world. The raising of Lazarus: He is the Resurrection & the Life. All are reminders of what we learned about Jesus in **John 1**. They are evidences that Jesus is our Lord and our God, the Christ, the Son of God (20:28,31). They are so we will believe and have life in His name.

The location of the first sign was at a village wedding feast in Cana of Galilee (9 miles N of Nazareth?). In Western weddings the bride is the prominent figure. In Eastern weddings it is the groom. He even pays for everything! Some of these weddings went on for days! Running out of supplies (especially wine) would be an embarrassment for the groom, a never-forgotten memory!

**Read 2:1-12. :1-2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; :2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 1:35** The first day of Jesus' public ministry. **1:43** The 2<sup>nd</sup> day. **2:1** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, Jesus along with His disciples were invited to a wedding.

Marriage is a sacred union of a man and woman where they become one. What God has brought together, let no man separate (Mt. 19:6). Apparently Jesus' mother Mary was responsible for parts of the wedding. Perhaps a wedding of one of Jesus' younger brothers or sisters?

**:3-5 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." :4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us (lit. what to Me and to you)? My hour has not yet come." :5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."** Obviously drunkenness was condemned, but what was a Jewish wedding without wine!?! The rabbis said, "Without wine, there is no joy!" The wine at this wedding ran out!!!

**:3** Mary, Jesus' mother, told Him about the problem. She didn't ask Him to do anything about it; she merely told Him. Perhaps a request for help, although she certainly wasn't expecting a miracle because this was the first miracle He performed. Perhaps as the eldest son, He had been providing for the family needs (Joseph may have passed on). Those who know Jesus well instinctively turn to Him when help is needed. "Jesus! Help!"

**:4** Jesus responded: **"Woman, what is that to Me and you?"** 'Woman' was a title of respect (see 4:21, 19:26, 20:13,15, Mt. 15:28, Lk. 13:12). Remember, Jesus had just been baptized, then tempted in the wilderness for 40 days, and

I want us to join Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, & Nathanael, the first followers of Jesus, as they/we are exposed to Jesus and what He's like. After being with these men for just two days, they are all invited to a wedding. It was on that festive occasion that Jesus did His first sign & 'manifested the Father's glory!'

There are 7 signs (Grk. *sēmeiōn*, 2:11,23, 3:2, 4:54, 6:2,14,26,30, 7:31, 9:16, 10:41, 11:47, 12:18,37, 20:30) in John's Gospel: water into wine, the healing of a royal official's son, the healing of an impotent man, the feeding of the 5000, walking across the waves to the disciples, the healing of the blind man, the raising of Lazarus from the dead. We realize Jesus did dozens of 'signs', but as John looked back and remembered, he chose 7 because of what they communicate.

Most of the signs are followed by Jesus teaching what the signs point to. For example: Feeding of the 5000: He is the Bread of life. The healing of the blind man: He is the Light of the world. The raising of Lazarus: He is the Resurrection & the Life. All are reminders of what we learned about Jesus in **John 1**. They are evidences that Jesus is our Lord and our God, the Christ, the Son of God (20:28,31). They are so we will believe and have life in His name.

The location of the first sign was at a village wedding feast in Cana of Galilee (9 miles N of Nazareth?). In Western weddings the bride is the prominent figure. In Eastern weddings it is the groom. He even pays for everything! Some of these weddings went on for days! Running out of supplies (especially wine) would be an embarrassment for the groom, a never-forgotten memory!

**Read 2:1-12. :1-2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; :2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 1:35** The first day of Jesus' public ministry. **1:43** The 2<sup>nd</sup> day. **2:1** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, Jesus along with His disciples were invited to a wedding.

Marriage is a sacred union of a man and woman where they become one. What God has brought together, let no man separate (Mt. 19:6). Apparently Jesus' mother Mary was responsible for parts of the wedding. Perhaps a wedding of one of Jesus' younger brothers or sisters?

**:3-5 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." :4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us (lit. what to Me and to you)? My hour has not yet come." :5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."** Obviously drunkenness was condemned, but what was a Jewish wedding without wine!?! The rabbis said, "Without wine, there is no joy!" The wine at this wedding ran out!!!

**:3** Mary, Jesus' mother, told Him about the problem. She didn't ask Him to do anything about it; she merely told Him. Perhaps a request for help, although she certainly wasn't expecting a miracle because this was the first miracle He performed. Perhaps as the eldest son, He had been providing for the family needs (Joseph may have passed on). Those who know Jesus well instinctively turn to Him when help is needed. "Jesus! Help!"

**:4** Jesus responded: **"Woman, what is that to Me and you?"** 'Woman' was a title of respect (see 4:21, 19:26, 20:13,15, Mt. 15:28, Lk. 13:12). Remember, Jesus had just been baptized, then tempted in the wilderness for 40 days, and

was just now beginning His public ministry. He was living by the purpose and will of the Father. **“My hour has not yet come.”** We know His hour didn’t come until three years later (7:30, 8:20, 12:23,27, 13:1, 17:1). In the meantime, He would do what the Father wanted Him to do, not pressured by people or even current needs. Jesus saw His life in terms of the Father’s will for Him. He was playing His life out to an audience of One, believing the Father would do through Him what needed to be done. So freeing! See **Acts 2:22**. And here we see a situation where Jesus initially refused the request, & then proceeded to help in His own way. The Father led Jesus to get involved.

:5 Mary said to the assistants (table waiters) at the wedding, **“Whatever He says to you, do it.”** This is advice for the ages! “Whatever He says to you, do it!” For those who tend to focus on ‘Mary’, listen to her words!

:6-7 **Now there were six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each (lit. two or three measures).** :7 **Jesus said to them, “Fill the water pots with water.”**

:6 Water pots were present in accordance with the Jewish rites of purification. The water was required for cleansing the feet and the hands on entry to a house. If not done, the hands were considered unclean. These six water pots would contain at least 120-180 gallons of water!

:7 As far as we know, there was no prayer, no word of command, no touching the water, no hysterical shouting. It wasn’t a show. There was a need, and Jesus was so tuned in with His Father and His will, that the Father had Him meet it. The water simply became wine. Just like the Creation, God called into being something that didn’t exist in those pots (see **Rom. 4:17**).

:8-10 **So they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter (or steward).” So they took it to him.**

:9 **When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, :10 and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely *then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.*”**

:8 The headwaiter or steward was the coordinator for the events of the wedding and the following days. Jesus told the servants to draw some water out and take it to the headwaiter. The servants, who were the only ones who knew where the liquid came from, took the liquid to the man.

:9-10 He tasted this water which had become wine, and said “We will serve no wine before its time!” Actually he called the groom and said, “Every person serves the good wine first and then when everyone is a bit ‘joyful’, he serves the inferior wine. But you(!) have kept the good wine until now! Way to go!” The groom was apparently smart enough to keep his mouth shut!

When touched by the will of God, the 120 gallons of water were changed from the ordinary to the extraordinary. God wants to bring joy and abundance to our lives. Christians filled with the Spirit and sensitive to the Father’s leading can bring joy (a fruit of the Holy Spirit) to everyday events.

was just now beginning His public ministry. He was living by the purpose and will of the Father. **“My hour has not yet come.”** We know His hour didn’t come until three years later (7:30, 8:20, 12:23,27, 13:1, 17:1). In the meantime, He would do what the Father wanted Him to do, not pressured by people or even current needs. Jesus saw His life in terms of the Father’s will for Him. He was playing His life out to an audience of One, believing the Father would do through Him what needed to be done. So freeing! See **Acts 2:22**. And here we see a situation where Jesus initially refused the request, & then proceeded to help in His own way. The Father led Jesus to get involved.

:5 Mary said to the assistants (table waiters) at the wedding, **“Whatever He says to you, do it.”** This is advice for the ages! “Whatever He says to you, do it!” For those who tend to focus on ‘Mary’, listen to her words!

:6-7 **Now there were six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each (lit. two or three measures).** :7 **Jesus said to them, “Fill the water pots with water.”**

:6 Water pots were present in accordance with the Jewish rites of purification. The water was required for cleansing the feet and the hands on entry to a house. If not done, the hands were considered unclean. These six water pots would contain at least 120-180 gallons of water!

:7 As far as we know, there was no prayer, no word of command, no touching the water, no hysterical shouting. It wasn’t a show. There was a need, and Jesus was so tuned in with His Father and His will, that the Father had Him meet it. The water simply became wine. Just like the Creation, God called into being something that didn’t exist in those pots (see **Rom. 4:17**).

:8-10 **So they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter (or steward).” So they took it to him.**

:9 **When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, :10 and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely *then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.*”**

:8 The headwaiter or steward was the coordinator for the events of the wedding and the following days. Jesus told the servants to draw some water out and take it to the headwaiter. The servants, who were the only ones who knew where the liquid came from, took the liquid to the man.

:9-10 He tasted this water which had become wine, and said “We will serve no wine before its time!” Actually he called the groom and said, “Every person serves the good wine first and then when everyone is a bit ‘joyful’, he serves the inferior wine. But you(!) have kept the good wine until now! Way to go!” The groom was apparently smart enough to keep his mouth shut!

When touched by the will of God, the 120 gallons of water were changed from the ordinary to the extraordinary. God wants to bring joy and abundance to our lives. Christians filled with the Spirit and sensitive to the Father’s leading can bring joy (a fruit of the Holy Spirit) to everyday events.

Whenever Jesus comes into a person's life, there comes a new quality which is like turning water into wine, the taste of new wine (**read Mk. 2:21-22**). Jesus wants to give us something so much better than what we have. Men do the ordinary, but Jesus touches it, and brings it to life, and gives it impact, fruit, flavor. This is what the ministry of Jesus is going to be like whenever He touches a human life, whenever He touches your life or others through you!

**:11 This beginning of His signs (or attesting miracles) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.** They made the choice to continue to believe in Him and follow Him.

The age of the Messiah had begun. The hour wasn't yet fully there, but it had begun. Water to wine was the first of the seven signs the apostle John picked out. This was one of those 'greater things' Jesus talked about in **1:50**. But, the question is, "What did the sign 'SIGN'IFY? Signs are not merely miracles (displays of power); they are miracles that have a meaning. "The word stresses the spiritual significance of the miracle and points away from itself to Jesus who performed it." The signs revealed aspects of the person or work of Jesus (here His—actually the Father's—glory), and their purpose was to encourage faith in HIM. Jesus will make Himself the issue throughout the Gospel.

Here was One who could handle the problems of life. The disciples believed IN HIM for the first time. They chose to continue following Him. One chooses to believe or not believe, to follow or not follow. See **6:67-69**. You see the sign and the One who did it, and you either accept or reject Him. If we choose to believe, then we will see His glory. But it begins with faith in who He is. This sign revealed Jesus in His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father (**1:14**). In the midst of witnesses/testimonies/signs stands Jesus.

Also notice, the sign was just for the disciples, no one else. Many at the wedding experienced the sign; but only the believers deepened their faith in Him, not in what He can do but who He is.

**:12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He & His mother & brothers & His disciples; & they stayed there a few days.** Capernaum lay on the NW shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and His mother Mary and brothers (younger children of Joseph and Mary, born after Jesus (**Mt. 13:55-56, Mk. 6:3**)).

Here is the always-existing One, the Word, face to face with God, was God, Creator, Life, the always shining Light, who became flesh, a Man who was physically born after John in terms of time yet existed before John, the only begotten God, the Lamb of God, the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, rabbi/teacher, Messiah/Christ, Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man. JESUS is who/what John's Gospel is all about. May Jesus be who we are all about! Do we believe in Him?

Also, like Jesus, if a need is revealed to you, ask the Father how He wants you involved, and do what you can. He'll work through you. What impact does this passage have on your mind being renewed? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

Whenever Jesus comes into a person's life, there comes a new quality which is like turning water into wine, the taste of new wine (**read Mk. 2:21-22**). Jesus wants to give us something so much better than what we have. Men do the ordinary, but Jesus touches it, and brings it to life, and gives it impact, fruit, flavor. This is what the ministry of Jesus is going to be like whenever He touches a human life, whenever He touches your life or others through you!

**:11 This beginning of His signs (or attesting miracles) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.** They made the choice to continue to believe in Him and follow Him.

The age of the Messiah had begun. The hour wasn't yet fully there, but it had begun. Water to wine was the first of the seven signs the apostle John picked out. This was one of those 'greater things' Jesus talked about in **1:50**. But, the question is, "What did the sign 'SIGN'IFY? Signs are not merely miracles (displays of power); they are miracles that have a meaning. "The word stresses the spiritual significance of the miracle and points away from itself to Jesus who performed it." The signs revealed aspects of the person or work of Jesus (here His—actually the Father's—glory), and their purpose was to encourage faith in HIM. Jesus will make Himself the issue throughout the Gospel.

Here was One who could handle the problems of life. The disciples believed IN HIM for the first time. They chose to continue following Him. One chooses to believe or not believe, to follow or not follow. See **6:67-69**. You see the sign and the One who did it, and you either accept or reject Him. If we choose to believe, then we will see His glory. But it begins with faith in who He is. This sign revealed Jesus in His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father (**1:14**). In the midst of witnesses/testimonies/signs stands Jesus.

Also notice, the sign was just for the disciples, no one else. Many at the wedding experienced the sign; but only the believers deepened their faith in Him, not in what He can do but who He is.

**:12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He & His mother & brothers & His disciples; & they stayed there a few days.** Capernaum lay on the NW shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and His mother Mary and brothers (younger children of Joseph and Mary, born after Jesus (**Mt. 13:55-56, Mk. 6:3**)).

Here is the always-existing One, the Word, face to face with God, was God, Creator, Life, the always shining Light, who became flesh, a Man who was physically born after John in terms of time yet existed before John, the only begotten God, the Lamb of God, the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, rabbi/teacher, Messiah/Christ, Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph, King of Israel, Son of Man. JESUS is who/what John's Gospel is all about. May Jesus be who we are all about! Do we believe in Him?

Also, like Jesus, if a need is revealed to you, ask the Father how He wants you involved, and do what you can. He'll work through you. What impact does this passage have on your mind being renewed? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

Practical Ways to **Apply** God's Word:

1. Start with Jesus (**Mt. 11:28-30**) and fix your focus on Him (**Heb. 12:1-3**). Practice ECRAT: Examine, Confess, Review, Allow, and Thank.
2. As part of your immediate family, you have a responsible role to play as a husband, wife, parent, child (see **Mt. 19:3-6, Eph. 5:18-6:4, Col. 3:18-21**). Be sure you're remaining true to who God has made you.
3. Then as part of the Family of God, pray for, love, be hospitable to, and serve one another, using your Spirit-given gifts (**1 Pet. 4:7-11**). Also, consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (**Heb. 10:24-25**). Do good to all Gal. 6:10.
4. Then as an individual Christian: **Rom. 12:9-21, 1 Cor. 13:1-8a, Eph. 4:20-6:18, and 1 Pet. 2:11-3:17** spell out how Jesus will live out His life and love uniquely through you as you trust Him, rest in Him.
5. Be careful who you listen to and what you watch and read, what you're continually thinking about. Choose & be a good role model. Be sure there's a steady input from God's Word. Pray without ceasing. Realize there's a glorious, certain, guaranteed future for you and every other Christian.

Remember, this is a life and love only Jesus through the Holy Spirit can live in/through you! Yet He will as you by faith run the race set before you (**Heb. 12:1-2a**). Lessons you learned? Applications you made? Questions you have? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?

Practical Ways to **Apply** God's Word:

1. Start with Jesus (**Mt. 11:28-30**) and fix your focus on Him (**Heb. 12:1-3**). Practice ECRAT: Examine, Confess, Review, Allow, and Thank.
2. As part of your immediate family, you have a responsible role to play as a husband, wife, parent, child (see **Mt. 19:3-6, Eph. 5:18-6:4, Col. 3:18-21**). Be sure you're remaining true to who God has made you.
3. Then as part of the Family of God, pray for, love, be hospitable to, and serve one another, using your Spirit-given gifts (**1 Pet. 4:7-11**). Also, consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (**Heb. 10:24-25**). Do good to all Gal. 6:10.
4. Then as an individual Christian: **Rom. 12:9-21, 1 Cor. 13:1-8a, Eph. 4:20-6:18, and 1 Pet. 2:11-3:17** spell out how Jesus will live out His life and love uniquely through you as you trust Him, rest in Him.
5. Be careful who you listen to and what you watch and read, what you're continually thinking about. Choose & be a good role model. Be sure there's a steady input from God's Word. Pray without ceasing. Realize there's a glorious, certain, guaranteed future for you and every other Christian.

Remember, this is a life and love only Jesus through the Holy Spirit can live in/through you! Yet He will as you by faith run the race set before you (**Heb. 12:1-2a**). Lessons you learned? Applications you made? Questions you have? What impact does this passage have on your daily walk with Jesus?