



**Session 1** Water into Wine  
week starting March 1, 2020

The first 11 chapters of the Gospel of John are often called the Book of Signs. It frames the teaching of Jesus with seven miraculous signs designed to point the reader in the direction of Jesus as the Messiah. The first of these signs is the turning of water into wine at a wedding in Cana (John 2:1–11). Jesus, at the request of his mother, uses the stone religious washing vessels to turn water into wine, saving the wedding celebration and the reputation of the groom.

### GETTING STARTED

Tell about a wedding or party you attended where something surprising happened.

### DISCUSSION:

- Read John 2:1–5. Have you experienced an embarrassing or socially awkward public situation? What was it like for you (or the one who was embarrassed, if not you)?
- What stands out to you about the interaction between Mary and Jesus? What insights do you have about their relationship? How might we come to know Jesus' character like Mary does?
- What do Mary's words to the servants teach us?
- Read John 2:6–11. Why do you think Jesus chose to use the 6 stone jars for ceremonial washing?
- What can we learn from the action of the servants? What might they have been thinking and/or talking about in the process of moving approximately 180 gallons of water?
- What is the significance of Jesus making the best wine?
- There is no mention of a wedding "ceremony" in the text, just that Jesus participated in the celebration as a whole. What do we learn about God's desire to be present in our celebrations? How can that change our approach to them?

### LIVE IT OUT:

This week, pray for an opportunity to come to the aid of another person in an act of service or a gift. When an opportunity presents itself, jump in and help, reflecting on Jesus' willingness to save the wedding feast.

Memorize John 2:10.

### PRAY

Lord Jesus, thank you for demonstrating your love and care through miracles. We are grateful for your presence in our celebrations, trials, and even in the ordinary things of life. We ask you to be with us today in these situations, in which we need you:

(Invite the group to express individual needs here).

Help us to look for and celebrate your miracles, as you work in and around us. All this we entrust to you. Amen.