



John 2:1-11 Small Group Questions

- The passage begins at a wedding. What can we gather about how this wedding is going? What might it say about the bride and groom that they are running out of wine?
- Jesus' mother, Mary, tells Him that the wedding has run out of wine. Why does she tell Him this? Do you think that she's just informing Him of the situation, or is there a question hidden within the statement?
 - Jesus seems to react strongly to this statement/question. Why do you think He reacts this way?
 - Michael said that Mary here approaches Jesus and uses her relationship with Him as His mother to try to force His hand, to try to make Him act. What is wrong with this attitude?
 - Have you ever found yourself trying to force God to act? What forms might this attitude take in our lives?
- Mary then goes and tells the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them to do; clearly she still wants Jesus to do something, but she's now acting differently. How does it seem like her posture has changed?
 - Michael said that Mary had to get to a point where she acknowledged Jesus as her authority, instead of vice versa. What helped you acknowledge Jesus as someone who has authority over you? What does it mean practically when we say that Jesus is our ultimately authority?
 - What other kinds of authorities do people follow in our culture?

- Mary's persistent ask seems to move Jesus; He decides to act. Why do you think Jesus decided to do this miracle after responding to Mary so strongly?
 - Michael said that prayer moves the heart of God throughout Scripture. Where else in the Bible does prayer seem to affect God?
 - What does prayer look like for you? Do you make a regular practice of prayer? If so, how have you made room for it?
 - How have you seen God answer prayers in your life before?
 - Michael said that God sometimes answers our prayers in surprising and unexpected ways. How have you seen God answer your prayers unexpectedly or in ways you didn't see coming?
- John notes in verse 6 that there were six stone water jars used for purification. Why does John tell us this detail?
 - What, then, might be the deeper significance of Jesus turning water into wine? What might the wine symbolize?
 - Read John 20:30-31. What does this say about how John decides which miracles to record in his book?
 - So why do you think that Jesus chose this miracle to be His first? What does this say about the importance of Jesus' crucifixion for John?
- In verses 6-8, Jesus tells the servants to fill the jars with water and bring some of the water to the master of the feast. Why do you think the servants chose to listen to Jesus?
 - Michael noted that through their obedience, the cups of everyone at the wedding were filled. What does this tell us about the nature of Christ's commands and rules for us?
 - How does obedience lead to greater freedom and flourishing for the Christian?

- How have you seen others end up with less freedom because they disregarded the boundaries that God has set out for us? Where have you experienced this in your life?
- On the other hand, when have you experienced Jesus' commands leading to greater freedom and flourishing in your life?
- What makes it hard to sometimes believe that Christ's commands are for our good?
- In verses 9-10, the master of the feast tastes the water become wine, and he can't believe it! The wine is good wine. Michael said that the guests get to enjoy the good wine right at that moment. In what ways can we enjoy Christ now?
 - How have you found your life to be more joyful because of Christ?