

— THE — GOOD STUFF



GROWTH GUIDE JANUARY 19, 2025

Scripture: John 2:1-11

AUTHOR

The gospel of John was written by John, a fisherman, who along with his brother, James, became disciples of Jesus and were part of the original 12. John wrote his gospel around AD 85-90 to prove that Jesus is the Son of God and that all who believe in him will have eternal life.

CONTEXT

John the Baptist has proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus has begun his ministry, and chosen his disciples. The scripture passage today takes place in the village of Cana in Galilee where Jesus is attending a wedding along with his mother, Mary, and some of his disciples. In Jesus' time, weddings were a week-long festivity with a banquet prepared for many guests as everyone celebrated the new life of the married couple. The whole town was invited and to refuse the invitation was considered an insult. Lots of planning went into the festivities so to run out of wine was embarrassing and not hospitable.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read John 2:1-11. What stands out to you?
2. Jesus shows us balance in his life. He is on the most important mission in the history of the world, yet he finds time to celebrate special occasions such as weddings. How are you keeping balance in your life? Are there areas of imbalance that you need to work on? Do you invite Jesus into all areas of your life – both work and pleasure?

3. How did Jesus respond to Mary's request in verse 4? What do you think Jesus meant by, "My time has not come"? Do you think Mary was surprised by Jesus' response? What do you know about her character that informs this?
4. Do you ever bring a problem to Jesus and you've already decided how you think he should respond? Have you ever had a plan in place and then things turned out completely different from what you had hoped for? How did you respond?
5. Mary did not understand what Jesus was going to do but she trusted him to do what was right. How obedient are you to God's leading? Do you find it challenging to trust Jesus? Share an example if you feel comfortable.
6. The 6 stone water jars were used for Jewish ceremonial washing. According to their law, people became symbolically unclean by touching objects of everyday life. Before and after eating, the Jews would pour water over their hands to cleanse themselves of any bad influences associated with what they had touched. The transformation of water to wine points to the kind of transforming ministry that Jesus would have. God is doing a new thing! Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. When someone accepts Jesus, how does it impact their life? How has accepting Jesus and following him impacted your life?
7. Where do you see signs of God working in your life? How is God working in the life of Mount Tabor?
8. When the disciples saw Jesus' miracle, they believed. What is your faith story? What brought you to faith in Jesus?