

DAILY TIME**SECTION 1 | JOHN 2:1-12**

Jesus' first miracle is an unexpected one. He doesn't have all of his disciples yet. It's not the season for him to begin his public ministry, his long march to the cross and resurrection. And yet at a wedding feast he turns water into wine. This week we're going to focus on a couple of Jesus' earliest doings in preparation for group time, and we're starting with this scene for today. Spend some time reading this passage and meditating on what it says. Reflect on what it means, but also pay attention to what it stirs in your heart, whatever the stirring is—comfort, surprise, anger, shock, etc.

¹On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ²and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.”

They did so, ⁹and 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 ¹⁰and 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.”

¹¹What 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.

¹²After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days.

? Spend time reflecting on the passage and record some of your thoughts.

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SECTION 2 | JOHN 2:13-25

¹³When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

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¹⁸The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

²⁰They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

²³Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name. ²⁴But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. ²⁵He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

❓ What is your reaction to Jesus’ behavior in this passage?

❓ What do we learn about Jesus from this passage?

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SECTION 3 | 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

This section comes from Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, addressing some of the troublesome rumors and practices in the Church. He’s also responding to the way they’re defending their behavior. Two important concepts appear in this section that go beyond his discussions of sex: rights and temples. Read this passage, meditate on what it’s saying, then reflect on the questions.

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1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

¹²“I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.

¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

¹⁹Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

- ❓ When the Corinthians say they have the right to do anything, how does Paul respond? What do you think motivates his response?
- ❓ What do you think he means when Paul says our bodies “are members of Christ himself?”
- ❓ When you hear Paul say that our “bodies are temples for the Holy Spirit,” what is the first thing which comes to your mind?

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GROUP TIME

WEEK 2 - JESUS COMES TO PARTY

- ① Imagine Jesus comes to a party. Write out what you think would happen. Be specific: What party do you think he would show up at? What would he say? How would he look and behave? What would the people at the party say or do?

- ② What made you write the version of your story you did? What made you pick that kind of party Jesus would show up to?

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Skim these passages from earlier this week. Jot down some notes as you read.

JOHN 2:1-25

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would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. ²⁵ He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

❓ Why do you think Christ inaugurated his ministry at a feast by making wine? What do feasting and wine have to do with Christ?

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❓ These stories are right next to each other in the text. Why do you think that is? How do we reconcile the Jesus who makes wine with the Jesus who uses a whip to clear the temple?

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❓ If Jesus showed up to a party on campus, do you think we'd see something closer to the first or second story? Why?

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LIVING IT OUT

As a group, decide how you're going to apply something from this week's discussion. Write out what you decide here.

