

"WHO IS JESUS?" FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 24, January 21

JESUS IS THE MIRACLE WORKER

You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples. PSALM 77:14



ollowing his baptism and temptation, Jesus chose twelve disciples to follow him. These twelve men left their jobs, their homes, and their families to follow their rabbi. Little did they know what they would see

and hear in the coming days and weeks, and how their minds and hearts would change.

Jesus and his disciples were invited to a wedding in Cana. The bride and groom were probably close family friends or relatives of Jesus, since his mother and brothers were there as well. Jesus's mother, Mary,

came to him with a major problem: there was no more wine!

Now, at first this might not seem like a big deal. Just drink something else, right? Well, no. In Jesus's time people drank mostly water and wine. And a wedding is a celebration, so you need wine. If a host were to run out of wine, it was considered a serious offense and brought shame to the family. Not only that, but wedding feasts sometimes lasted for days, so someone needed to get more wine, and fast!

Jesus said to his mother, "Why do you involve me? My hour has not yet come" (John 2:4).

But Mary, knowing who her son was, told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you" (2:5).

Nearby were six huge stone jars. Each of them could hold twenty to thirty gallons of water. They were there because Jews used jars like these for ceremonial washing, following the Jewish law.

Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water" (2:7).

And the servants did, all the way to the top.

Then Jesus told them to pour some and take it to the master of the banquet.

The master tasted the most delicious wine, and he asked the groom, "Why are you serving this wine now? Everyone else serves the best first, and saves the cheap stuff for when their guests have had their fill. You've saved the best for last!"

We don't know what the groom answered, but we can imagine he stuttered something in his astonishment. Word probably got out pretty quickly from the servants, and the wedding was abuzz with the news of this miracle. The wine flowed freely, for there was much of it, and Jesus restored honor to this family. Jesus revealed his glory through this first miracle, and as a result his disciples believed in him.

Perhaps they knew the prophecy from Joel, that when the day of the Lord came, the day the Messiah would appear, the mountains would drip with new wine (Joel 2:1; 3:18). Imagine their joy and their thought process: Is the day of the Lord here? He made water turn to wine! And so much—120 gallons! He has power over nature! Could he be the Messiah? He must be! We better listen and follow!

Oh, how much more they would see! This was only the beginning of Jesus's ministry.



REFLECT

 Why do you think Jesus responded to his mother the way he did, and then did the miracle?

2. Jesus used jars intended for ceremonial washing for wine (John 2:6). How might this show the change between the old covenant and the new covenant?

3. How have you seen Jesus as the miracle worker in your own life?

BIBLE REFERENCE JOHN 2:1-11

KEY VERSE PSALM 77:14