

# LIFE GROUP LESSON

John the Life-Giving Gospel • Week of April 19

## Introduction

As we embark upon John, chapter two, we'll see how John uses *signs* and *works* to speak of Jesus' miracles. As we begin to see glimpses of Jesus' glory through the works he performs in context of ordinary life, we will find him attending a wedding, at a well in a Samaritan village, by pools of Bethesda, attending Jewish festivals in Jerusalem, or on the teaching steps among people. We will begin to understand why John wants us to see Jesus *with* people. He is the Word (*logos*) of God made flesh, living among us. Jesus meets us at our points of deepest need. He is always working for his Father is always working (John 5:17).

## Background

Jesus is about his Father's work amid day-to-day life. Ordinary moments become divine appointments as Jesus' glory is revealed. He is God's Son, the Messiah, the One who ushers in the New Covenant. Keeping in mind the goal of John's Gospel – *“that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name (John 20:31) – each of us has a choice to make. Will we believe and build our lives upon his foundation? Or will we reject him, the One who has now become the cornerstone (Psalm 118:22)?*

With John, chapter one closing with the call of the first disciples – Andrew inviting his brother, Simon, “We have found the Messiah” (John 1:41) and Philip inviting, Nathanael, “Come and see for yourself!” (John 1:46) – chapter two opens with these words: *The next day...* bringing us to the first sign. Jesus' purpose and glory is revealed as he turns six stone jars filled with water of purification into extraordinary wine at a wedding in Cana of Galilee.

## Read John 2:1-12

### Discussion

When the wine supply ran out, Jesus' mother knew the first thing to do was tell Jesus. Notice she did not tell her Son what to do, but she only informed him: “They have no more wine” (v3). Jesus responds: “Dear woman, that's not our problem ... my time has not yet come” (v4).

- What can we learn from these verses about how to approach the Lord in our prayers, requests, and petitions for his intervention in our lives and the

lives of others we love?

- Notice, Jesus' mother did tell the servants: “Do whatever he tells you!” (v5). What does this say about obedience, trust, and aligning with where God is working?
- This miraculous sign at a simple wedding in Cana of Galilee – where Jesus' mother, Jesus and his new disciples, and several others attended (perhaps the entire village of Cana) – is the first time Jesus revealed his glory. Scripture says: “And his disciples believed in him” (v11). What can we glean by comparing the following scriptures—  
John 1:6-10 with Luke 5:33-39                      John 2:11 with John 8:60-71

## Read John 2:13-22

After a few days with his mother and disciples in Capernaum, Jesus goes to Jerusalem for the Jewish Passover celebration and goes into the Temple area. We recall during the days of Solomon and the construction the first Temple, the large stones used in construction were finished at the quarry, so there was no sound of hammer, ax, or any other iron tool heard at the building site. In other words, it was peaceful (see 1 Kings 6:7). However, as Jesus goes into the Temple this day, what does he see? Does he see worshipers coming to worship the LORD in a holy environment of humility and peace?

- According to John 2:14 (NLT) “In the Temple area he saw \_\_\_\_\_ selling \_\_\_\_\_, sheep, and doves for \_\_\_\_\_: he also saw \_\_\_\_\_ at tables exchanging foreign \_\_\_\_\_.” (fill in the blanks)
- The Temple area was to be a place where worshipers would come in humility and peace and return home forgiven and full of joy having sought the LORD by bringing their tithes and offerings. The ultimate offering is a broken spirit and contrite heart; the ultimate sacrifice is an offering of praise.
- How are the merchants, dealers, and money-changers keeping the people from God? From being forgiven of sin? From finding peace and joy?
- The cattle, sheep, and doves were innocent animals. But the thieves and robbers (allowed by the religious leaders!) were guilty and corrupt. How does Jesus respond to the corruption he sees?
- Why does Jesus' cleansing of his Father's House enrage the religious leaders?
- How does Jesus want to purify our Temple, our bodies, the Temple of His Holy Spirit? (see 1 Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-9)

## Read John 2:23-25

Considering all twenty-five verses of John, chapter two, how is Jesus already preparing himself *and us* who believe in his name for the ‘crushing’ of new wine?

### In Closing

When God’s Son shows up, everything changes. Are we ready for God’s Son to show up in our lives? This is a good day to pray:

“Lord Jesus, you already know everything about me. You know my weakness, my struggles, the secret sins. Lord, I am asking you today to purify my heart. May your glory enter my heart as you cleanse the Temple of my body and mind which you purchased with your shed blood! Restore to me the joy of your salvation. Lord, you are the Cornerstone. Lord Jesus, you are the new wine who ushers in the New Covenant. I want to be a living stone that brings you glory, and I ask that you make me like a new wine skin, ready for new wine. Lord, I choose to surrender my heart to you, so that my life may bring you joy. I give you permission to drive out all corruption – from my heart, my life, my thoughts. Lord, my heart belongs to you, and I love you. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

### One Year Bible Reading

- Apr. 19: Joshua 19:1-20:9, Luke 19:28-48, Psalm 88:1-18, Proverbs 13:12-14
- Apr. 20: Joshua 21:1-22:20, Luke 20:1-26, Psalm 89:1-13, Proverbs 13:15-16
- Apr. 21: Joshua 22:21-23:16, Luke 20:27-47, Psalm 89:14-37, Proverbs 13:17-19
- Apr. 22: Joshua 24:1-33, Luke 21:1-28, Psalm 89:38-52, Proverbs 13:20-23
- Apr. 23: Judges 1:1-2:9, Luke 21:29-22:13, Psalm 90:1-91:16, Proverbs 13:24-25
- Apr. 24: Judges 2:10-3:31, Luke 22:14-34, Psalm 92:1-93:5, Proverbs 14:1-2
- Apr. 25: Judges 4:1-5:31, Luke 22:35-53, Psalm 94:1-23, Proverbs 14:3-4



**Text: John 2:1-11, 13-22**

## PLAIN TRUTH:

**In Jesus what is \_\_\_\_\_ for God  
can be used to \_\_\_\_\_ God.**

1. Are you satisfied with \_\_\_\_\_ or are you ready to ask for new \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Growing in Jesus gives new \_\_\_\_\_ and new \_\_\_\_\_ to live into.
3. Jesus purifies both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Temples!

**Power Point:** Henceforth, we are no longer to believe we can make good things come from nothing in our lives until we turn our lives over to God’s faithful hands.

**April 19, 2026**