

Dear Life Group Leaders,

This week we're looking at Jesus' first miracle. For context, Jesus is in his early 30s, yet nothing of any grand scale has happened yet in his ministry. To most people at the wedding in Galilee, he is just Joseph and Mary's eldest son - not anyone remarkable and certainly not the Son of God. The focus of this week's Guide is on the following three relationships in the miracle: Jesus and His mother, Mary. Jesus and the servants. Jesus and His disciples. I hope you enjoy this study as you look at how we respond to Jesus. God bless,

Noline

(This week's Life Group Guide is brought to you by Noline Matemera who attends our Wimbledon Venue)

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

John 2:1-11

This Week's BIG IDEA: How do we respond to Jesus? Like Mary, the servants or the disciples?

Please read John 2:1-11.

A) Jesus and Mary

1. Of the three groups of relationships, Mary knew the most about who Jesus was and His true identity. Who do you think Mary thought Jesus was?
[Leaders note: See Luke 1:31-32, 2:5, 2:46-47. Jesus will be great; Son of the Most High; King.]
2. v3-5, why did Mary go to Jesus? What gave her the confidence to give this instruction to the servants?
[Leaders note: Mary knew Jesus was no ordinary man even though He had not performed any miracles at this stage. She believed in her heart He could do something. She was expectant.]
3. Can our attitude or posture sometimes stop us from receiving or hearing from God?
4. What do we learn from Mary's actions in these verses? How can we apply this to our own lives?
[Leaders note: This is a deliberately open question. Answers could be things like Mary knew enough of Jesus to have confidence in Him in this moment. This is faith in action. Mary is a role model for us.]

B) Jesus and the Servants

5. v6-7, it is reasonable to assume that Jesus was unknown to the servants. How do you think they might have felt about being given this task?
[Leaders note: It was back breaking manual work; total volume in question is about 690 litres.]
6. How do we respond when God asks us to be long suffering or walk through a difficult situation where the purpose or reason is unclear?
7. v8, what were the risks with what Jesus asked the servants to do? What stops us from taking risks and having complete trust and faith in His leading and direction?

C) Jesus and the Disciples

8. v11, what was the effect of the miracle on the disciples?
[Leaders note: Remember, Jesus had not long started picking his disciples (see John 1:35-51).]
9. Considering all three groups we've just looked at. Which group do you most identify with? Why?
10. Before closing in prayer. Take a step back and review the whole passage. What does this miracle tell us about Jesus?
[Leaders note: You might need to get the ball rolling here, but it's things like... consider the power Jesus demonstrates in this miracle, it's not a magic trick, nor clever chemistry, Jesus is the creator. The jars are filled to the brim, Jesus fills us to the brim. This first sign took place at a wedding! God's new work in Jesus is centred on celebration, joy, festival, and that sign of the new covenant, wine. Lots of good news crammed in to these few verses!]
11. Close in prayer. For moments when we are without faith, when we struggle to recall the things of God treasured in our hearts. That we would look to Jesus, see the things he does, and put our faith in Him.