- **Signs** – In OT, signs authenticated God's messenger, so people would believe the message they delivered
  - John takes this understanding and applies it to Jesus … With specific signs, he puts forth **Jesus as God's Messenger and Message** – Jn20:30-31 … **He fulfills every sign He performs** … Every sign **reveals glory and faith in Jesus** – 2:11
  - LEWIS: GOD DOESN'T DO PARLOR TRICKS. WHEN GOD PERFORMS A MIRACLE, HE HAS A SPECIFIC PURPOSE IN MIND. HE ALSO EXPECTS A SPECIFIC RESPONSE. … The reader of John's gospel needs to see the greater plot line happening beneath the story … On the surface, we have a wedding with no wine … Beneath, something greater is occurring … We see this by how Jesus responds to Mary's request

- **The Request (3-5)**
  - Weddings are a community event, extending a week … A person's social standing is viewed thru their hospitality … Running out of wine during a wedding celebration is a huge deal … Mary probably knows the couple or family, thus her going to Jesus with a request to do something … She also goes to Him **knowing that He's able to do something**
  - Jesus isn't disrespecting His mother – "dear woman" … He pushes back on the request – what's the reason behind the ask … He's set on His Father's business; is providing more wine part of this? … His response to Mary and disciples underscores the seriousness of why He's here – **the hour yet to come** (13:1, 17:1) … His task isn't to fill empty wine jugs; **it's to be the Messiah**

- **The Reveal (6-10)**
  - In OT, God's covenant with His people is described as a **marriage** … Continues in NT: we're the Bride of Christ … Expresses seriousness of covenant between God and His people in Christ … People would ceremonially wash themselves to **keep pure – stone jars** … No matter how many times people wash, they couldn't become pure enough
  - Jesus uses situation to reveal what's occurring in spiritual realm: **old covenant is finished** … **No wine** / marriage celebration → end of covenant relationship … Purification jars are **filled to the brim** → OC requirements and righteousness fully fulfilled … **Jesus is the fulfillment and culmination of OC** … OT **Messianic age** illustrated as new wine in exceeding abundance … Jesus is declaring: the promised **NC is here** in Him, thru Him, by Him … Better wine = Better covenant … Because of Jesus

- **The Response (11)**
  - Words of 1:45 are proven … This Jesus who is now revealing Himself … He's the Messiah they need … He's the Messiah we need … **They believed IN Him** – who He is, what He represents … More than a good teacher … He's the very One who gives them life … He's the very One who changes their life … He's the very One they've been waiting for
  - Mary believes and disciples believe … Brothers were present, but refuse to believe … **Where are you?** … You can no more change your nature than can water change itself to wine … You need Christ to change you … Only He can make you new