

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **The Wedding at Cana in Galilee**
Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **September 24, 2017**

Bible text explored: John 2:1–12

¹On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. ⁹When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

¹²After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days. [ESV]

Review and application:

Following this Gospel’s prologue, its first 12 chapters focus on seven miraculous signs revealing Jesus as fulfilling what Judaism had promised since Old Testament times. Thousands witnessed a later sign, but this initial one bolstered his own first disciples’ belief.

1. Why (vv. 1-5) do you think John doesn’t refer to Mary by name here (and in *John 19:26-27*)?
Why does Jesus address her as “woman,” a polite but formal, slightly distant term?
Was Jesus beginning to redefine his relationship to his earthly family?
(See *Matt. 12:46-50*.)
2. Wine, in Scripture, is associated with joy. (See, for instance, *Amos 9:13-14*). So how would the wine supply running out in this village’s days-long wedding dampen its celebration, and shame its host?
3. Is Scripture clear (vv. 6-10) about the dangers of heavy drinking?
(See *Prov. 20:1* and *23:19-21*.)
But did Jesus promote alcoholic abstinence? (See *Luke 7:33-34*.)
4. The public media often implies that committed Christians are party poopers. Have you encountered this “wet blanket” perception?
But following Jesus, Pastor Moody observed, is like participating in a wedding, not a funeral. How well are you internalizing the joy of Jesus breaking into human existence?
5. What (vv. 11-12) did the “glory” that Jesus revealed in this first of his signs tell about his creation power?
To what ultimate conclusion did it lead his disciples and members of his human family? (See *John 20:30-31*.)
How are we inheritors of his glory? (See *John 1:14* and *10:10*, also *2 Cor. 3:18*.)