

## Jesus Turns the Water into Wine

Teacher Pep Talk: A series of lessons on the Miracles of Jesus wouldn't be complete without His first miracle performed at a marriage at Cana in Galilee: Turning the Water into Wine. Performing miracles is something only God can do, and turning the water into wine is no exception! Jesus didn't draw attention to what He did. Some people at the marriage ceremony realized what had happened. Others did not. God is still doing miracles today; the question is "Are we noticing them or not?"

You will need: Masking tape and paper for Bible Memorization Hopscotch  
Pitcher, water, and grape concentrate for making grape juice.  
"Wedding Cake" for snacks.  
Alternatively have grapes and water for snacks.  
Dress up items for Wedding Dress Up

Major Points: Jesus and His Disciples were invited to a wedding.  
Jesus' mother, Mary, was at the wedding too.  
During the wedding feast, they ran out of wine.  
Jesus performed a miracle changing water into wine.  
Jesus' Disciples believed in Him!

Scripture Ref. John 2:1-12

Memory Verse: John 2:11(b) "...and his disciples believed in him."

Lesson: **Jesus and His Disciples were invited to a Wedding**

- How many of you have ever been to a wedding? (*Wait for answers; some of them may have even been IN a wedding – flower girl, ring bearer, etc. Allow the children to tell you a little about weddings.*)
- During a wedding a bride and a groom come together and are married.
- They invite their friends and family to be there.
- They used to have weddings a long time ago (during Jesus' time) too.
- Jesus and His Disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana in Galilee.

**Jesus' mother, Mary, was there too!**

- You remember Mary, Jesus' mother.
  - *Review who Mary is.*
  - *Talk about the Christmas story some, if necessary.*
- Mary was invited to the wedding as well.
- She was there along with Jesus and His Disciples.
- Mary is an important part of this story.

**During the Wedding Feast, they ran out of wine.**

- Wedding feasts back then usually lasted several days.
- During the feasts, the families of the bride and groom would stay together and eat and drink together.
- It was considered very important to have enough food and drink for everyone who was at the celebration for all those days.
- But at this celebration, they ran out of wine! (Uh oh!)
- Mary came to Jesus and told Him.
- Jesus said to her “Woman, why do you involve me? My hour has not yet come.”
- But Mary told the servants, “Do whatever He tells you.”

**Jesus performed a miracle: He turned water into wine.**

- There were 6 big stone water containers sitting there.
- Jesus told the servants to fill them all up with water.
- They filled them all the way up (20-30 gallons each!)
- Then He told them to dip out of one of the containers and take it to the Master of the Feast.
- When the servants took him the cup, it was full of wine!
- It was the best wine of all!

**His Disciples believed in Him!**

- Jesus would do other miracles later, but this was the first one He did.
- The only reason He could do a miracle like this was that He was the Son of God!
- Jesus’ Disciples were there and they saw what happened.
- His Disciples believed in Jesus!

Let’s pray and thank God that His Son Jesus came, and that we can believe in Him.

Prayer: Dear God,  
Thank you that Jesus came here.  
Thank you that He was able to do miracles.  
Thank you that we can believe in Him because He is your Son.  
Amen

Suggested Activities: *(Choose a few activities for your class!)*

### **Memory Verse Hopscotch**

John 2:11 "...and his disciples believed in him."

Before class: Using chalk or masking tape, mark out a hopscotch game on the floor with 7 blank spaces on it. On pieces of paper write out each word of the memory verse and tape each piece to the center of a Hopscotch square.

During class:

Say *"Jesus had picked His Disciples and they were following Him. But when they saw this first miracle they were really amazed and believed in Him. The man who wrote the words in our memory verse was actually there that day when the miracle happened."*

Have the children take turns hopping across the squares and saying the words of the Bible verse out loud as they hop. Do this a couple of times each until most of them learn the verse. NOTE: Don't have them hop back, just forwards!

### **Make Grape Juice or Grape Drink**

Use a clear pitcher full of water and frozen grape juice concentrate to make "grape juice". Alternatively use powdered grape drink mix and water. (Ex: Kool-Aid) Be sure to stir it up in front of the children. Point out that although we can make grape juice this way, that Jesus only used water, and He didn't even touch the jars or the water!

Drink the grape juice for snack!

### **Wedding Cake Snack**

For fun bring in white cake with white icing for the snack today. *(To make it more like a wedding cake, use white fondant to cover the cake instead of regular icing.)* Other options include having either "petits fours" *(consult your local bakery)* or white cupcakes with white icing. (See below for other option.)

### **Have your Cake and Eat it too!**

Before class: Obtain enough plain cupcakes for each student to have one. Bring small plastic bags, twist ties, a spoon, and plenty of prepared icing. Consider a plastic tablecloth for the table, as well as water and cloths for clean up!

During class: Place a spoonful of icing in one corner of each plastic bag. Close the top of the bag with a twist tie. Snip a tiny hole in the corner of the bag. Allow the children to "decorate" their own "wedding cupcake." Now you can have your cake and eat it too!

### **Wedding Dress Up**

Dress up like for a wedding. *(With some notice ahead of time parents may even want to send flower girl dresses to church on that day.)* Bring pieces of fabric reminiscent of a wedding. For example: tulle or netting (for veil material), crepe, or other light airy fabric to drape the girls in. Bring ties, big shirts, and hats for the boys. Bring some plastic or silk flowers for a "centerpiece". Consider taking photos of your class all dressed up!