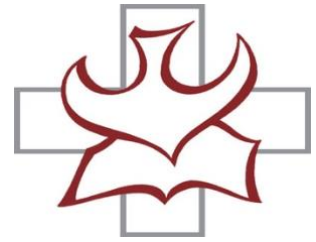


# The Miracle at Cana

Genesis 2:18-25 Ephesians 5:21-33 John 2:1-11

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Today we heard the story of Jesus working a miracle at the wedding in Cana. At the end of the story is this enlightening verse:

This, the first of His **signs**, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and **revealed** His glory. And His disciples believed in Him. John 2:11

Miracles are described as **signs**; it means that *there is more to the miracle than the miracle itself!* Miracles are signs that point to something else.

## Miracles point to Jesus and His Word.

If Jesus can work a miracle, then His Word is true also. Miracles are signs that point to Jesus and the truthfulness of His Word.

Another way of saying that is that miracles are an “*epiphany*” – a *revealing*<sup>1</sup>. Miracles **reveal** the glory of Christ! Jesus’ miracles **reveal** that He really is the Son of God and the Savior of Nations. They help us to **understand** who was born in Bethlehem for us. Miracles **reveal** Who Jesus is; miracles are like **Epiphany spotlights** shining on Jesus!

**After the disciples saw the “sign” that “revealed” who Jesus is, they put their trust in Him.** Miracles in the Bible are meant to do the same thing for you. Jesus’ miracles are an epiphany: *they reveal to you the glory and the power of the Son of God so that you put your trust in Him and His Word!* *The miracles of Jesus bear witness that He is the Son of God, the Savior of all men, who speaks the very Words of God!*

This first miracle of Jesus happened at a wedding in a city named Cana. They run out of wine, His mother Mary asks if He could do anything to help,

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<sup>1</sup> The root word used in John 2:11 for “manifested/revealed” is φανερώω; the basis for the English word “Epiphany”!

and Jesus creates wine out of 6 stone jars of water. There are several things we can learn from this miracle story.

## JESUS IS AT A WEDDING

This couple invited Jesus to their wedding. Of course, as God the Creator, Jesus instituted marriage with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God's presence and His miracle at this wedding is His continual seal of approval on marriage. **A Christian wedding is a public witness that Christ is the foundation of a couple's life together as husband and wife!** The relationship between a Christian husband and a Christian wife bears witness to the relationship between Christ and His Bride, the Holy Christian Church. **Marriage is God's gift; and it is blessed by Him.** So too this wedding in Cana was blessed by the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator of marriage!

MARRIAGE IS a *is a lifelong union between one biological man and one biological woman.* As Christians we need to be bold in our witness to marriage; it has become one of the front lines in our Christian witness. Same-sex marriage and "living together" before marriage are blatant rejections of the Creator, of marriage, and are a public denial of God's Holy Word. In fact, any form of sexual immorality defies and overturns God's gift of marriage.

- † If you are caught up in sexual immorality somehow, then repent! Turn away from it, completely break the relationship, and confess it to God.
- † If you have accepted the world's view of homosexuality and "same sex Marriage", then repent! Line your thoughts up with Word of God; don't follow *the ways or the thinking* of the world!

**The Creator of Marriage is also our Savior from sin;** and in His death and resurrection, you are forgiven, and made whole. Have nothing to do with the old life of sexual immorality. Have nothing to do with the rebellious thinking of the world. You have been baptized and you have been sanctified: ***flee sexual immorality and honor God's good gift of marriage.***

Regardless of what the world thinks, and how it has corrupted and redefined marriage, the Lord God Himself defines marriage *for us*, and teaches us to value marriage and sexuality in His Holy Word. At the wedding of Cana, Jesus blesses the union of man and wife with His presence and with His power.

“Christians get married in order to help each other get to heaven.”

MARTIN LUTHER

### A second thing to note is MARY’S PRAYER

Things were going so well at this wedding that they ran out of wine! It was crisis for this family. Running out of wine would be socially embarrassing to the couple and their families. **Even today, this would be a crisis!** Mary jumps in and brings the problem to Jesus. Mary knows what to do, and Who to turn to, and so she tells Jesus the problem. This is where Jesus works the miracle, He changes the water into wine.

*If Jesus cares about extra wine at a wedding, then don’t you think He cares about you and whatever you are facing today?* Mary brought the problem to Jesus because she knew that He cares and that He would do something about it.

### Isn’t that a great definition of prayer?

**Knowing that Jesus cares and that He will do something to help!**

At the Wedding in Cana, Jesus provided around **150 gallons of wine!** God provided abundantly! God provides abundantly for you also.

- † God provides abundantly for you when He showers you with all **spiritual blessings** in Christ and gives you His Holy Spirit.
- † God provides abundantly for you when He faithfully gives you your **daily bread**; everything you need to support and sustain your body and life.
- † God provides abundantly for you when He hears and answers every **prayer** you say. He cares about the details of your life.

You can learn from Mary at this wedding in Cana how to pray to Jesus. Bring your problems, your pain, your crisis, your needs, your cares and your worries to Jesus, **because He cares about you, and He will do something to help!**

Finally, note **THE GOSPEL** in this story.

Besides **affirming marriage** and working His first **miracle**, Jesus also **teaches** us something important about Himself. When Mary told him about the wine, Jesus replied, “**My hour has not yet come.**” At first, this response might seem strange. But it is a phrase that is unique in the Gospel of John, where John uses it **7 times** to refer to the death and resurrection of Jesus!!

**When Jesus dies on a cross, then  
“His hour has come,”  
and His work will be complete.**

His resurrection from the dead is the greatest miracle of all. All the miracles that Jesus performs ultimately point forward -- *like “signs”* -- to the greatest miracle:

**His death that pays for our sins**  
**His resurrection that gives us life!**

The phrase “**My time has not yet come**” reminds Mary, *and us*, that Jesus came into the world for something far greater than changing water into wine: He came into the world to die on a cross for our sins! And then on the Third Day, He rose from the dead to give us eternal life! The phrase “**My hour has not yet come**” is pure Gospel – it’s Good News for us! It points us forward to the time *when Jesus’ hour will come*: His death and resurrection that secures our eternal salvation!

Jesus’ first miracle at the Wedding in Cana reveals Him as the powerful Son of God who can work miracles. The wedding at Cana is an Epiphany story! We learn to value marriage, we learn the importance of prayer, and we learn why Jesus really came into the world!

Today, *like the disciples*, see the miracle, put your faith in Jesus, and trust His Word! Amen!