

When the Wine Runs Out

Word

Scripture Reference

John 2:1-11

Discussion Questions

The apostle John gives us the only account among the four gospels of Jesus' first miracle. Read John 2:1-11. We see that Jesus and His mother were attending a wedding in Cana. What happened at this wedding shows us three spiritual lessons:

1. *When the wine runs out, remember that it does not last (v. 1-4).* In Jewish culture during this time, weddings typically last several days. Freely flowing wine is associated with joy. But no matter how plentiful wine is, it will eventually run out. What gives you joy? Is it your health, wealth, family, career, or possessions? What do you do when it runs out?

Verse 4 tells us that at the wedding Jesus and Mary attended, wine ran out. To run out of wine at a wedding is considered a terrible embarrassment in that culture. Bible scholars believe that Mary's concern regarding the shortage of wine during this event indicates a close relationship with the bride or groom's family. They were about to be shamed in the community, and that led her to turn to her Son, who she knew can do something about the situation. How did Mary talk to Jesus and how did Jesus respond to Mary (v. 3-4)? What did their conversation reveal about who Mary is and who Jesus is? Do you think it is theologically correct to say that a request coursed through Mary, the mother of Jesus, be granted automatically? Why do you say so?

2. *When the wine runs out, look for the good wine (v. 5-10).* What attitude did Mary show towards the Lord Jesus Christ? Describe what happened next. With the abundance of good wine, what

does it tell you about who Jesus is and how much He gives? How do you understand John 10:10? What does it teach you about Jesus?

3. *When the wine runs out, trust in the God who made the wine (v. 11).* What is a sign and what is its purpose? How different is a sign from a miracle? What does it emphasize and what effect should it give us? How was the response of the disciples towards Jesus? What does verse 11 tell us regarding the purpose of Jesus changing the water into wine? Who is Jesus in this story and what does He reveal about Himself?

Walk

Everyday, we encounter challenges and difficult situations that test our faith. We struggle with school work, business, relationships, finances, family matters, health, and so much more that at times, we feel alone in our battles and worse, desperate to re-energize our weary self. When the wine runs out in your life, remember to look to Jesus and trust Him, because He will never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). Stop and think about all the times God showed that He is there for you.

Worship & Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for reminding us of your love for us when you sent your Son the Lord Jesus Christ to take our place and die on our behalf. We thank you that we can live this life with the full assurance not only of His presence but also of His love and power which will carry us through whatever situation we maybe in. Remind us always to look to Jesus and empower us to trust fully and wholeheartedly in Him no matter what the cost. Thank you. This is our prayer, in Jesus name. Amen.