



WEDDING AT CANA REFLECTION

Marriage Encounter Online

SHERRI

Here, you will be reflecting on a familiar story in the Bible about a wedding at Cana where Jesus performed his first public miracle by turning water into wine. If you have seen the movie “Fiddler on the Roof”, you will appreciate the setting of this story. Jewish weddings were big occasions. The whole community was invited, and wine was very important. When the wine ran out, it was a great social embarrassment.

We want you to sit by the Reflection Pond and read the Bible story by St. John 2:1-11. During PR answer the questions on the handout. During CD try to understand each other as you discuss your answers.

THE WEDDING AT CANA St. John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had likewise been invited to the celebration. At a certain point the wine ran out, and Jesus’ mother told him, "They have no more wine." Jesus replied, "Woman, how does this concern of yours involve me? My hour has not yet come." His mother instructed those waiting on tables, "Do whatever he tells you."

As prescribed for Jewish ceremonial washings, there were at hand six stone water jars, each holding fifteen to twenty-five gallons. "Fill those jars with water," Jesus ordered, at which they filled them up to the brim. "Now," he said, "draw some out and take it to the waiter in charge. They did as he instructed them.

The waiter in charge tasted the water made wine, without knowing where it had come from; only the waiters knew, since they had drawn the water. Then the waiter in charge called the groom over and remarked to him: "People usually serve the choice wine first; then when the guests have been drinking awhile, a lesser vintage: What you have done is keep the choice wine until now."

Jesus performed this first of his signs at Cana in Galilee. Thus did he reveal his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

1. If you were the social editor for the local newspaper, what headline would you give this story?

- "Mother of Guest Takes Charge at Wedding"
- "Water Mysteriously Turns to Wine at Reception"
- "Mother and Son Save Bridegroom From Embarrassment"
- "Local Wedding Turns Into Wine Tasting Party"
- "Guests Are Stunned—Groom Saves Best Wine for Last"

2. How do you imagine Jesus felt about his mother's suggestion that he do something about the wine?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> annoyed | <input type="checkbox"/> reluctant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> embarrassed | <input type="checkbox"/> willing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> manipulated | <input type="checkbox"/> honored |

3. If you had been the bridegroom, how would you have felt when you heard about the new wine?

- relieved -- I can't forget about the guests.
- curious -- How did this happen?
- amazed -- This is a miracle!
- puzzled -- The servants must have made a mistake.

4. What "miracles" led you to put your faith in Jesus?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the change in heart I experienced | <input type="checkbox"/> the wrong direction I was going |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the "new wine" Jesus put in our marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> the changes I saw in others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a specific miracle Jesus did for us | <input type="checkbox"/> nothing else made sense. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

5. What is your attitude toward inviting the Lord into your marriage? Is there any area in your life that feels like stale water in an old jug?

6. What is the "wine level" (zest for living) in your marriage at the moment?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> overflowing | <input type="checkbox"/> running out fast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> half-full | <input type="checkbox"/> empty |

7. In what area of your married life do you need a miracle right now?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> physical | <input type="checkbox"/> relational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> financial | <input type="checkbox"/> school / career |
| <input type="checkbox"/> emotional | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> spiritual | |

8. How can we remember to pray for this ministry?
