

Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 2
Jesus Shows He Is True God

Law/Gospel

Like the disciples, I am unsure of who Jesus is. **Through His Word and Sacraments, Jesus shows He is my Savior and God.**

Bible Words

Long ago . . . God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.

Hebrews 1:1-2

Fun Facts

People thought stone water containers did not become unclean, unlike earthenware pots. That was important because these stone jars held water for the Jewish rites of purification, which included washing hands before eating. Each jar held 20-30 gallons of water, which Jesus turned into 120-180 gallons of wine!

Jesus Changes Water into Wine

John 2:1-11

Early in Jesus' ministry, He attended a wedding in Cana with His first disciples. Jesus' mother, Mary, also attended.

By custom, the groom's family hosted a five- to seven-day wedding feast with food, wine, dancing, and entertainment. At this wedding, Mary learned that the wine ran out. This would result in serious embarrassment for the host family, so Mary told Jesus about it.

Jesus called His mother "woman," a common and respectful greeting, but His question "What does this have to do with Me?" means more than it seems. He meant, "What shared interest do we have here?" Mary seemed to expect a miracle, but Jesus knew this would reveal His identity as God's Son. Showing faith in her Son, Mary directed the servants to do whatever He said.

Jesus decided to act. He told the servants to fill the six nearby stone water jars with water and then draw some out and take it to the master of the feast. The master of the feast tasted the new wine and praised the bridegroom for providing such great wine, better than that served first.

Other people would have made a big show of this kind of generosity, but only Mary, the servants, and Jesus' disciples knew the circumstances of the miracle. This was the first miracle Jesus showed to His disciples, and they believed in Him.

Wine at Weddings

A biblical wedding ceremony and feast required large amounts of wine. During the ceremony, a rabbi thanked and praised God and spoke blessings over several cups of wine drunk by the couple. People drank wine at the celebration and meals that followed. At the end of a meal, a prayer and seven blessings were recited over wine shared by the couple.

Wine symbolized life: it began as grape juice, soured as it fermented, and then turned into something wonderful that brought joy. A full cup of wine symbolized God's overflowing love and blessings (Psalm 23:5).

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for showing us that You are God's Son, our Savior, who died for us. In Your name we pray. Amen.

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