



Pt. 1: Signs; Water to Wine

Beginning with first-century followers of Jesus, trusting in Jesus has been a response to evidence—not simply in hoping something is true. The gospel writer John referred to the miracles of Jesus as signs that give evidence of who Jesus was. The first sign John documents is when Jesus—with a nudge from his mother—attended a wedding and turned water into wine.

Bottom Line: The signs of Jesus are meant to lead us to belief in Jesus as the Son of God so that we may have eternal life.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is something you once believed without any evidence? Why did you believe it?
2. How would you describe the difference between faith and belief?
3. **Read John 2:2–11.** The apostle John recounts the story of Jesus turning water into wine.
 - How familiar is this story to you? Is there anything you read that stands out as new information?
 - Running out of wine was not just inconvenient, but a social disaster and disgrace. The family would have to live with the shame of it for a long time to come; bride and groom might regard it as bad luck on their married life. What might have motivated Jesus to act despite the fact that he believed his “time” hadn’t come yet (verse 4)?
 - In verse 9, how would you have reacted if you were “one of the servants” at the wedding and just witnessed what Jesus did?
4. Think about the purpose of a sign. What does this particular sign reveal about Jesus’ character, identity, and mission?
5. The transformation from water to wine is of course meant by John to signify the effect that Jesus can have on people’s lives. Where do we see Jesus’ transforming power at work in our world today?
6. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
7. How can the group encourage you this week?

*If time doesn’t allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.