

May 27, 2018

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Jesus' First Miracle*

Lesson Objective: This week we narrow in on the first miracle of Jesus: turning water into wine. This miracle follows on the words of Jesus' call to His disciples (John 1:35-51) and His admonition to them (John 1:50). Nathanael acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God and the King of Israel. This becomes the jumping off point for our story, but also Jesus' words that the disciples would see great and mighty things. Initially they may not have understood what Jesus meant. As the story concludes the disciples see that Jesus has a power unlike anything they had ever seen. Their firsthand perspective on the story and what they see happen causes them to believe in Jesus. As the life of Jesus plays out, we will see the disciples' faith come and go. However, it is Jesus – the Son of God and the King of Israel – who is faithful to them and to us regardless of our own unbelief.

Scripture: John 1:35—2:11

Story: Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 10 (Pages 274-275); The Beginner's Bible, 320-325; Gospel Story Book Bible, Pages 170-171.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

Craft: Water to Wine Tube

Supplies: Cardstock, blue cellophane, red cellophane, stapler, tape

Instructions: 1. Roll cardstock to form a tube (younger classes have ready-made tubes) and secure with staples.

2. Roll both cellophanes and tape ends together.

3. String cellophane through tube so blue and red stick out opposite ends of tube.



Relay of the Day: See below

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

Craft: Water to Wine Wheel

Supplies: Card stock top circle and bottom circle, brad, crayons/markers

Instructions: 1. Color bottom circle "wine" red and "water" blue.

2. Color top circle as desired.

3. Attach top circle to bottom circle with brad.



Relay of the Day: Divide the children into two teams on one side of the room or just have them stand in one large group on the wall. Give each child a cup and tell them they are servants at the wedding feast. Pour water from a pitcher into their cup and instruct them to cross the room to empty their cup into another pitcher. After each child has completed their carry, you will add some flavoring to the pitcher and serve them the "new wine" with their snack. Reload and repeat as you like:) You will have one packet of raspberry lemonade in your rooms for each service.

Story: *Jesus' First Miracle*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, if you could turn water into something yummy to drink, what would you turn it into? (i.e., chocolate milk, or fruit punch, or carpi sun). In our story today, we learn that Jesus takes regular, ordinary water and turns it into something special. Let's find out more in our story!
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus continues to call disciples; Nathanael acknowledges, for us the readers too, that Jesus is God's Son and the King of Israel.
- Jesus tells Nathanael that the disciples will see great and mighty things.
- Jesus and His disciples went to a wedding in Cana as invited guests.
- The wine portions for the wedding ran out, and Mary, Jesus' mother, came to Him for help. Jesus was not obliged to help Mary or the wedding at all.
- Jesus commanded the servants to fill stone jars to the brim. These jars could hold 20-30 gallons of water. The servants then took the water to the master of the wedding. It was the best wine he had ever had!
- Jesus, in this miracle, shows who He truly is – He is God's Son! The power of God is in Him to do such a miracle!

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, if you could turn water into something yummy to drink, what would you turn it into? (i.e., chocolate milk, or fruit punch, or carpi sun). In our story today, we learn that Jesus takes regular, ordinary water and turns it into something special. Let's find out more in our story!

The Disciples Follow Jesus

Jesus continued to walk around looking for "fishers of men" to follow Him. He decided to go to Galilee. Galilee was a place (region) where Jesus spent a lot of time. While Jesus was in Galilee, he found Philip. Jesus said to Philip, "Follow me." Philip was from the town of Bethsaida where Andrew and Peter lived.

As Philip followed Jesus, he saw Nathanael and told him about Jesus, "Remember that Moses wrote in the law about a man who was coming, and the prophets also wrote about him. We have found him. He is Jesus, the son of Joseph. He is from Nazareth." But Nathanael said to Philip, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip answered, "Let's follow and see."

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him with Phillip. Jesus said to Nathanael, "Here is truly a person of Israel. There is nothing false in him." Nathanael asked, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you when you were under the fig tree. That was before Philip told you about me."

Then Nathanael said to Jesus, "***Teacher, you are the Son of God. You are the King of Israel.***"

Jesus said to Nathanael, "You believe in me because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. ***But you will see greater things than that!***" And Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth. You will all see heaven open. You will see 'angels of God going up and coming down' on the Son of Man."

The Wedding in Cana

The disciples continued to follow Jesus, and they followed Jesus everywhere. One day Jesus took these men to a wedding! Jesus and His disciples traveled for two days to attend this wedding. The wedding was in a small town called Cana which was in Galilee. Jesus' mother was at the wedding too; her name was Mary.

Jesus did not arrive uninvited though; no, He and all His disciples were invited to the wedding. Once the ceremony was over, a feast began to celebrate the marriage. The feast had lots of food and wine for people to eat and drink. But there was a big problem at the wedding! There was more than enough food for everyone to eat, but the wine which the people drank was completely gone! This was a terrible thing. In Jesus' day the groom (the man) was supposed to have plenty of food and wine for everyone. The groom could be made fun of for a very long time if this happened.

When all the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to Him, "They have no more wine." Jesus answered, "Dear woman, why come to me? My time has not yet come." Jesus did not want to get involved with the wine problem at the wedding. But Jesus' mother did not understand this. So she told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you to do." Mary fully trusted that whatever Jesus did, it would be the right thing.

Near the place of the wedding were six stone water jars. These were very big stone jars. Each jar held about 20 to 30 gallons. The Jews used jars like these in their washing ceremonies – to make dirty things clean. People would clean utensils or wash their hands in these big stone jars. These stone jars were considered very dirty.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." The servants did just as Jesus commanded and filled the jars to the top with water.

Then Jesus said to the servants, "Now take some of the water out and give it to the master of the feast." It must have seemed strange for the servants to do this, but they did it anyway.

So, the servants took the water to the master. The master was the person in charge of when food and wine would go out to people. When the master tasted the water, it was no longer water but wine! The master did not know where the wine came from. But the servants who brought the water knew; they knew Jesus had changed the water into wine. The master of the wedding called the groom and said to him, "People always serve the best wine first. Later, after the guests have been drinking a lot, they serve the cheaper wine. But you have saved the best wine till now!"

So, in Cana of Galilee, Jesus did his first miracle. There he showed His glory; this meant Jesus showed who He truly was! He was no ordinary man, He was special – He was God's Son, the King of Israel just as Nathanael had said! This miracle showed that Jesus had a power greater than anyone had seen; it was the power of God! The disciples saw all of this and believed in Jesus.

Jesus would do many miracles, and just as He told His disciples, they would see great and mighty things (John 1:50)!

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who were the men that followed Jesus?
- Where did Jesus and the disciples go?
- What did the wedding run out of?
- Who came to Jesus to ask for help?
- What did Jesus command the servants to do?
- What did the master of the wedding say?
- How does turning water into wine show God's glory?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

Scripture Memory for May:

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Catechism Questions (1-20)

Hymn of the Month:

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing