

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Signs on Believers' Highway, Lesson 34

Lesson Title: Water Into Wine

Take Home Point: Jesus brings joy to everyday life.

Warm-Up:

Remember a time when you were a child that you wanted time to go faster? Perhaps you had purchased a special gift for someone and were eager to give it to him/her. Or maybe you were sick and you didn't want to wait as long as you knew it would take to feel better. Possibly it was the last day of school and it dragged on. It could have been because you had procrastinated on a school project and the glue wasn't drying quickly enough! Even as adults we seem to find that time is either "with" or "against" us, depending on our situation. I suppose all of us have wished at one time or another that we could alter time to achieve or fix what we wanted. But God has not put us in that position. We are required to work within the bounds and nature of time he has ordained.

Read: John 2:1-11; 1 Peter 1:8

Observation (What happened?):

How much wine did Jesus create?

What was the result in the lives of the disciples when Jesus performed this miracle?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Jesus responded to his mother in the way he did?

What did Jesus demonstrate by this miracle?

Insight:

Jesus didn't do any of his miracles just because. There was always purpose behind them. Sometimes it seems easy to see – for example, when he healed someone, it was out of compassion. But if we look a bit deeper past the immediate healings, what did Jesus show us? He showed us he is Lord over the physical realm. When he cast demons out of people, he was revealing that he is Lord over the spiritual realm. When he told Nathaniel he had seen him under the fig tree in conversation with Philip (see John 1), he showed he is Lord over space. The moment Lazarus walked out of his tomb after being dead for three days, Jesus demonstrated he is Lord over death. So what did Jesus demonstrate by this miracle of turning water to wine? He is Lord over time. Most of us do not have experience with making wine, but anyone who does will tell you it takes time. You don't open the bottle the day after filling it and expect to get wine, much less a good wine as described in this Bible account. But Jesus didn't even tell them to wait that long. Immediately after filling the jars, he told them to pour it out and serve it. We get to know and serve the Lord of all; even time is subject to his control.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What is missing from your life that Jesus will provide if you let him?

What is Jesus doing in your life that demonstrates his power and brings you joy?

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