



The Gospel of John Study

By: The Field Church

Week 2

Day 1:

Read: John 2:1-12

Today you are going to read about the wedding at Cana. There is a lot of foreshadowing for the crucifixion and the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this story. The big theme that I want you to discover for today is the theme of “Joy”:

The issue in today’s story is the wine had run out at this wedding. For the Jews, wine (not drunkenness) was a symbol of joy and a celebration of God’s blessing on them. Many scholars believe that wine running out at the wedding was a symbol of Israel’s dryness during this time in history. (ESV Study Notes)

1. When Jesus said His hour had not yet come, what was He referring to?
2. Why do you think Jesus decided to use the jars of water that were used for purification?
3. What was the reaction of the wedding participants to the new wine that Jesus made?
 - a. What parallels can we draw from the wine Jesus made at the wedding feast and His eventual crucifixion?

How did the crucifixion bring joy to the world? How did Jesus (the good wine) surpass the law (the poor wine)?

- ⊗ How did tasting the good wine of the gospel bring joy into your life?
 - What was life like for you before meeting Jesus?
- ♥ How can you share the joy that you have in Jesus with your friends?

Day 2:

Read: John 2:13-22

- ❖ In today’s reading, we read about Jesus cleansing the temple. This is one of the first recordings of Jesus confronting the religious leaders of His time. Why did He do so in such a violent manner? Because of who dwelled in the temple. God’s Spirit dwelled in the temple and it was meant to be a house of prayer to the Lord, holy and set apart for



Him. Instead, the religious leaders were using the temple as a place of commerce and selfish gain.

- ❖ In Jesus' day, one would come to the temple to offer sacrifices to the Lord, but many people had to travel long distances to reach it, so the religious leaders would sell certain animals for the patrons to use for their sacrifice. They would, however, also mark up the prices to exploit the situation for selfish gain. Their business also tended to take place in the temple court where the Gentiles (non-Jews) would worship, disrupting it. (Worship being the whole purpose for the temple being built in the first place).
- ♥ How were Jesus' actions an act of love to the people?
- 2. What did Jesus mean when He said He would tear down the temple and rebuild it in three days?
 - a. If you said "Jesus was talking about Himself", you would be right. How can Jesus say that and be speaking the truth?
- ❖ If Jesus is God, then His body represented the dwelling place (temple) of God. The religious leaders missed the whole point of the temple.
- 3. Do you have the same zeal growing in your heart that you see Jesus have in this passage? Give some examples of ways you are growing in your passion for the Lord.

Day 3:

Read: John 2:23-25

1. Why was Jesus unwilling to entrust Himself to the people in Jerusalem?
 - a. What is in man that made them untrustworthy?
 - b. Read: Jeremiah 17:9-10
 - i. What does Jeremiah say about our hearts?
2. Remember back to Chapter 1 of John, what about Jesus gives us hope despite the darkness of our hearts?
- + What should we look to in order to know how to make choices that honor God?
 - o What is one God-honoring choice that you are going to work on today? What Scripture are you meditating on to make this choice?

Day 4:

Read: John 3:1-8

1. In today's passage, you meet Nicodemus who was a Pharisee. He is having a conversation with Jesus about how to be saved. Why does Nicodemus think Jesus is a teacher from God?
2. When Jesus says that we have to be born of "water" and of "the Spirit", what do you think He means?



- a. Hint: Verses 4 & 6 explain the meaning of verse 5.
3. Why do you think Jesus uses the example of the wind to describe how the Spirit works?
 - a. How does Jesus' example give you confidence in the Spirit's ability to change you?

Day 5:

Read: John 3:9-15

1. Why does Jesus use the plural term "we" in verse 11 to refer to Himself?
 - a. What does He want Nicodemus to understand about the nature of God and of Himself?
2. In verse 14, Jesus made reference to Moses lifting up the serpent in the desert. In order to understand what Jesus is trying to communicate, please read: **Numbers 21:4-9**.
 - a. What had the people done that made God punish them with serpents?
 - b. What did God make as a symbol of the people's repentance?
 - i. When the people looked at the bronze serpent, it was a symbol of the repentance in their heart.
3. What is Jesus saying about Himself by using the story of Moses to refer to "the Son of Man being lifted up?"
 - a. When we look to the crucifixion of Jesus and believe in what He has done, what does that represent about our hearts?
⇒ Why is it so important for us to share about the cross to our friends, family, and people around us who do not have a relationship with Jesus?

Day 6:

Read: John 3:16-21

1. Why did God send His Son into the world?
 - ⊗ What do you learn about God's heart in verses 16 & 17?
 - How does knowing you are not condemned give you the freedom and desire to step into the light?
 - ♥ How does knowing God's heart for you inform how you should interact with the people in your world?
 - ❖ Note: I want you to talk about your friends who are Christians and the ones who are not Christians. How you interact with a brother or sister in Christ will differ somewhat to how you interact with someone who does not know Jesus (a "lost person").
2. What does it look like for you to do what is "true?" What are the implications for your life?



ⁱ Pharisees

separatists (Heb. persahin, from parash, "to separate"). They were probably the successors of the Assideans (i.e., the "pious"), a party that originated in the time of Antiochus Epiphanes in revolt against his heathenizing policy. The first mention of them is in a description by Josephus of the three sects or schools into which the Jews were divided (B.C. 145). The other two sects were the Essenes and the Sadducees. In the time of our Lord they were the popular party (John 7:48). They were extremely accurate and minute in all matters appertaining to the law of Moses (Matt. 9:14; 23:15; Luke 11:39; 18:12). Paul, when brought before the council of Jerusalem, professed himself a Pharisee (Acts 23:6-8; 26:4, 5).

There was much that was sound in their creed, yet their system of religion was a form and nothing more. Theirs was a very lax morality (Matt. 5:20; 15:4, 8; 23:3, 14, 23, 25; John 8:7). On the first notice of them in the New Testament (Matt. 3:7), they are ranked by our Lord with the Sadducees as a "generation of vipers." They were noted for their self-righteousness and their pride (Matt. 9:11; Luke 7:39; 18:11, 12). They were frequently rebuked by our Lord (Matt. 12:39; 16:1-4).

From the very beginning of his ministry the Pharisees showed themselves bitter and persistent enemies of our Lord. They could not bear his doctrines, and they sought by every means to destroy his influence among the people. (https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionaries/dict_meaning.php?source=1&wid=T0002926)

ⁱⁱ Repentance:

(2.) Metaneo, meaning to change one's mind and purpose, as the result of after knowledge. This verb, with (3) the cognate noun _metanoia_, is used of true repentance, a change of mind and purpose and life, to which remission of sin is promised.

Evangelical repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; (3) an actual hatred of sin (Ps. 119:128; Job 42:5, 6; 2 Cor. 7:10) and turning from it to God; and (4) a persistent endeavour after a holy life in a walking with God in the way of his commandments.

The true penitent is conscious of guilt (Ps. 51:4, 9), of pollution (51:5, 7, 10), and of helplessness (51:11; 109:21, 22). Thus he apprehends himself to be just what God has always seen him to be and declares him to be. But repentance comprehends not only such a sense of sin, but also an apprehension of mercy, without which there can be no true repentance (Ps. 51:1; 130:4). (<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/repentance>)