



# FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

**Week of January 9, 2022: John 2:1-11**

## Memory Verse

**John 2:11 (The Message**

**Bible):** "This act in Cana of Galilee was the first sign Jesus gave, the first glimpse of his glory. And his disciples believed in him."

## Family Prayer

**Morning Prayer:** It's a brand new day, God. Thank you for the rest. Thank you for the roof. Thank you for the warmth. Be with me today, and help me to be a good friend to all. Amen.

### Bedtime Blessing:

May your dreams be sweet  
May your slumber be Gold  
From your head to your feet  
May the God's Spirit enfold

### Meal Prayer:

The table is full. The family is here. Bless, oh God, this food and family. Help us to find and spread joy in our lives each day. [then at meal time, ask everybody "what was the best part of your day?"]



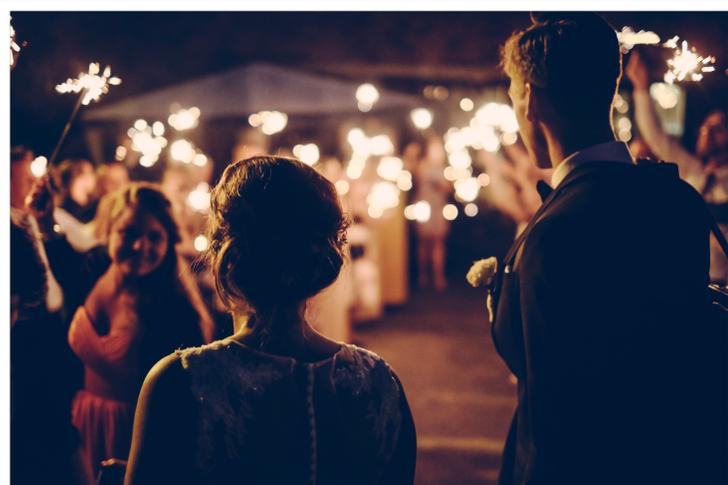
## The Story: A Wedding at Cana

First, you're going to need a Bible this time. Talk to your children about parties. Have they been to any birthday parties or weddings? Today's Bible story happens to take place at a wedding. Jesus was there with his mom and disciples.

*[Read John 2:1-2]*

Now, in those days weddings were a big deal that could last for days. There was a lot of eating and drinking going on. But the hosts came upon what was really a terrible problem: they ran out of wine (feel free to call it "grape juice" if you feel this will bring up too many questions about alcohol consumption in the Bible). There were thirsty guests still enjoying the party, and nothing to give them! Imagine going to a party where the food or the cake ran out before everyone was finished. Mary (the mother of Jesus) approached Jesus...

*[Read John 2:3-5]*



## Craft Corner

### “Jars of Clay” (any age)

You will need: play dough or clay: Make “pots” to remember the jars in the story and what the miracle meant. Allow for freedom of shape but encourage kids to form the clay to reflect a cup or vessel like the wine jugs described. For older children, invite them to research pictures of vessels found in archaeological digs.

## Activity

### “Overflowing Abundance” (all ages)

You will need: plastic wine glasses or small paper cups, water in jugs, newspaper. Place the newspapers on a table and get the children to help you make a tower with the glasses. Pour water from the jug into the top glass until it is full and running over, keep pouring until you have a waterfall effect. Hopefully the layers of newspaper underneath will soak up most of the mess! Use this as an introduction to this story about God’s overflowing abundance.



Why do you think Mary told Jesus about the situation? What did she think He could do?

Here is where one of the main points of this lesson: Mary **believed** in Jesus. She knew who He was, and even though she had raised Him, she knew what He would do, and she had faith that He could do anything. Even after Jesus rebukes her, she still tells the servants to do what Jesus says. She had faith. **Talk about what** “faith” means...believing in what we don’t see. Mary had not yet seen any miracles done by Jesus but she believed it would happen. And remarkably, the servants seem to believe, too, because they follow directions:

*[Read John 2:6-10]*

After obeying the instructions Jesus gave them, the servants bring water to the main host. Somehow in the trip between the jars and the banquet host, the water has become wine! Not just any wine, but the best wine. The host is quite impressed, as the servants surely are, too...

*[Read John 2:11]*

**Discuss** why we think Jesus did this, and what we can take away from it. For one thing, Jesus was opening His public ministry here, in order to prove who He was and who God was. Another element we see is that God cares about all things. Most of the miracles in the Bible have to do with healing or curing physical ailments, or even bringing back to life the dead. But this is just changing a beverage. Jesus cared to provide for the guests (and his mother) just as much as he cared to heal sight or cure disease. We also see that faith can make what is impossible happen. This is not to say that God will grant everything we ask just because we pretend to believe. What it does mean is that when we approach God for anything at all, or any time we pray, we can know that God is there and that God cares.