

Small Group Study Guide



March 1, 2020
Brewology

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank for the apostle John and his willingness to share his testimony in writing and we thank you for preserving this ancient document. As we journey with John and look at the miracles of Jesus over the next several weeks, reveal to us how these miracles are more than just random acts of kindness. Help us to see what these signs teach us about our savior. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES: John 2:1-12

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and 2 Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. 3 When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They don't have any wine." 4 Jesus replied, "Woman, what does that have to do with me? My time hasn't come yet." 5 His mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Nearby were six stone water jars used for the Jewish cleansing ritual, each able to hold about twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water," and they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Now draw some from them and take it to the headwaiter," and they did. 9 The headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine. He didn't know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. The headwaiter called the groom 10 and said, "Everyone serves the good wine first. They bring out the second-rate wine only when the guests are drinking freely. You kept the good wine until now." 11 This was the first miraculous sign that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. 12 After this, Jesus and his mother, his brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum and stayed there for a few days.

INTRODUCTION

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.

QUESTIONS

- 1) Did you give up anything for Lent? If so what?
- 2) The apostle John describes coming to faith as a process that starts with seeing actual events that served as signs of who Jesus was. Today, we can only hear or read about those events. Should the fact that we are not eyewitnesses to Jesus' miracles affect the process of someone coming to faith? Why or why not?
- 3) Read John 2:1–12 on page 1, where the apostle John recounts the story of Jesus turning water into wine.
 - How familiar is this story to you? Is there anything you just read that stands out as new information?
 - What are some details about this story that would lead a reader to believe that this actually happened?
 - In verse 9, how would you have reacted if you were “one of the servants” at the wedding and just witnessed what Jesus did?
 - In verse 10, consider the master of the banquet’s statement. How might that be a foreshadowing of the coming shift from the sacrificial system to Jesus being the ultimate sacrifice?
- 4) What are some characteristics about Jesus that come to mind as a result of this story?
- 5) Does looking at this story as a “sign” instead of just a “miracle” change anything about your view of God? How might it shape how you approach the miracles of Jesus?