

Three reasons why Home Groups are helpful:

1. You can connect with others to talk and pray
2. You can encourage and support one another in life's challenges
3. You can learn more about how to know, love, and follow Jesus

Find out your options on our website at www.trinityonline.org

DIG INTO THE RICHES OF GOD'S WORD

God preserved His words of eternal life in the Bible. This is God speaking to us, the truth that we need. Perhaps begin your time by asking God to help you to fully know Him, His ways, and how you can share His truth and grace with others in your world.

For this week, we are looking at John 2:1-11. In the previous chapter, we observed some amazing facts about Jesus Christ. Here is a summary:

John, the author and apostle, began his account of Jesus' life with these famous words, "In the beginning." This introduces a theme of a new beginning. John is writing about something as big as the creation in Genesis. Jesus is introduced as the Word, the full expression of God. He has the attributes of God: eternally existing, creator, the source of life for all mankind, the light that we all need.

Jesus' first witness was John the Baptizer who was prophesied in the Old Testament to be a forerunner to the Messiah. He described this coming one (Christ) as "The true light," but this light was not recognized by all. But to those who believed, he gave them the right to become children of God. This Word is God became a human being and dwelled among us. John the Apostle declared Jesus as the one and only Son of God, full of grace and truth.

The rest of the chapter continues with other witnesses of Jesus. John (author) revealed Him as the Son of God, the Messiah, greater than the law, the One who has made God known.

John the Baptizer said that he himself was not the Messiah. He identified Jesus as the Messiah and the one who "takes away the sin of the world."

John handed off his disciples to Jesus, the Lamb of God. Jesus invited five men to be with him. They were Andrew, John, Peter, Philip and Nathanael who said that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, the King of Israel.

LEARN ABOUT GOD'S GOODNESS AND PLANS

Read John 2:1-11. This is where Jesus begins His public ministry. Read through the passage and consider the following questions.

What's the story? (Who, where, what)

If Jesus is using this time to introduce a theme in His ministry, what might that theme be?
(Cf. 2 Corinthians 5:17)

John, the author, often used Jewish institutions and festivals to teach on who He is or what He brings. How might a wedding serve as one such occasion?

Jesus' response to his mother ("Woman") can sound curt or like a minor rebuke. What reasons does Jesus' offer? How does this fit this occasion and perhaps connect with other times the author's use of the word "hour" or "time" in 12:23?

How do we see faith in Jesus' mother?

What might be the significance of the pots (6) and them being filled to the brim (7)?

Some have said that replacing water with wine in a ceremonial pot for cleansing is "a clue to one of the meanings of the story." (D. A. Carson, "The Gospel According To John," p. 173) What meaning might it have had to the early church?

What happened that John identifies as a "sign?" (11) Who was the primary audience for this?

Why might a "sign" call up faith (i.e., in the disciples and us)? How does this connect with John's purpose statement in 20:30-31?

DISCUSS TOGETHER

When did you first hear about Jesus doing the miraculous? What affect did it have?

Not everyone who saw Jesus' miracles responded the same. How might these "signs" affect us? What might they mean in our lives?

Todd mentioned the lyrics of a song: "I get amnesia, I keep forgetting your goodness and your power displayed in my life" (David Crowder). What helps us see God's goodness and power in our lives?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for our friends and family who are suffering
- Pray for our global partners and our mission
- Pray for our nation, leaders, and God's kingdom
- Pray for our elders, pastors, directors