



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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John 2:1-12 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Why do you think Jesus performed His first miracle or “sign” at a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee?

His mother asked Him to help a groom and bride who would soon be disgraced if they ran out of wine. Rather than simply fill the old and empty wine skins with new wine, Jesus performed a miracle or sign that would demonstrate something of what He intended to do with those who believed in Him—transform them into children of God and fill them with His Spirit.

2. Why do you think Jesus used the purification jars to change water to wine?

The purification jars represented the ceremonial laws of Moses. Jesus came to fulfill the law of Moses. The water, the ceremonial laws, would cleanse the outside of a person, but Jesus would cleanse the inside of a person and make them better able and prepared to love and serve God and others—even as the wine served the groom, bride, and their wedding guests.

3. In what ways did Jesus avoid showing favoritism when He worked His miracle?

Jesus did not work His miracle because His mother asked for a miracle. Jesus always performed His miracles based on need and not on a person’s race or religion.

4. What lessons can we learn from the servants who put water in the jars?

We need to obey Jesus immediately whether we understand all His reasons or not. In the Bible, Jesus tells us many things to do and we may not learn why until we have done them. The servants learned why Jesus asked them to fill the jars with water after He turned the water into wine, but they did not learn how He worked His miracle.

5. Why do you think John emphasized that the disciples believed in Him after He performed the sign?

Jesus worked many miracles in the presence of His disciples during His three years of ministry. Each miracle strengthened their faith in Jesus. Later, when Jesus began to speak of His coming death and afterwards, all His signs would help them get through the days of darkness until He rose from the dead. They did not understand or believe in the possibility of Jesus' resurrection until He rose from the dead (another miracle) and prove personally to them that He had risen.

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