

Digging Deeper into John 2:1-12

Chat

- What's the best wedding you've ever been to?
- What about an unusual wedding – have you been to one that was a bit different?



Study

Read John 2:1-12

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+2&version=NIV>

- NT Jewish weddings were a big deal. They were wonderful celebrations enjoyed by many and they could last as long as a week! Behaviour by both guests and hosts was a matter of honour. If appropriate customs weren't followed, public shame could come on the married couple. Knowing this, why do you think it mattered that the wine ran out (v.3)?
- Why do you think Mary brought the problem to Jesus?
- What does Jesus' response tell us (v.4)?
(NB. His use of the term 'Woman' is not insulting but it is formal)
- What is Mary's instruction to the servants (v.5)?
- What is striking about this miracle (v.6-10)?
- How does John describe this miracle in v.11?
- What was the disciples' response (v.11)?
 - We know from later in the gospel that the disciples didn't have a real understanding of who Jesus was at this point. So, what do you think it means that they believed in him?
- Can we learn anything from this story on a practical level about helping others and showing generosity?
- John says at the end of his gospel (20:30-31) that he has been selective in the signs he has recorded. Why do you think he has included this one?
(Jews used the image of a wedding banquet when thinking about the coming of the Messiah and Jesus used the same image in a parable about the kingdom of heaven – see Mt.22:1ff)
Does this sign tell us anything about the generosity of our God?

Think

Jesus not only met the need at the wedding party: he provided more than enough wine and of the best quality. Through this sign, he showed the abundant generosity and celebratory nature of God.

- How has God shown his abundant generosity to you?
- How will you celebrate that in your life?
- How will you show others the same attitude?

