

Jesus' First Miracle

(John 2:1-10)

Pre-Session Warm Up

Who knows what a miracle is? [Teacher, discuss miracles with the children.] Miracles are supernatural events that show us God's real power over nature. For example, Jesus restored sight to a blind man, he made a lame man walk, and He even revived a dead man back to life. Have you ever experienced a miracle in your life? Have you ever skinned your knee? Did you know that when God heals your cuts or bruises, that is a miracle of God!

Opening Prayer

Father, encourage our hearts this morning as we learn that You are a God of miracles. We know that You love to amaze us so that we will know that You are God the Son and worthy of our praise. Thank You that nothing is too hard for You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Memory Verse

My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

Lesson

Have you ever been invited to a wedding? What was it like? Was there a big banquet with lots of things to eat and drink? Were there a lot of people there having a good time? Even Jesus went to parties.

Jesus and the disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana. Jesus' mother was there, too, and boy was she happy to see her Son.

John 2:1-2

The next day there was a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, (2) and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration.

Weddings in Jesus' day were week-long celebrations. Often the whole town was invited and everybody would come. They always had a large banquet table full of specially prepared goodies to eat and drink.

Everyone was having a good time at this wedding in Cana until something very embarrassing happened to the father of the bride. They ran out of wine! There was nothing to give the guests to drink.

John 2:3

The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine."

Now this would have been very embarrassing for the father of the bride. So Mary told Jesus what had happened. She was hoping that her son would help solve this major problem and find some wine. She was certain that He would help.

John 2:5

But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Mary trusted that Jesus would do something to help the family. He knew that Jesus was compassionate and wouldn't want them to be humiliated in front of all their guests.

Jesus listened to His mother; He knew just what to do. He saw that there were six huge water jars standing nearby.

John 2:6-8

Standing nearby were six stone water jars, used for Jewish ceremonial washing. Each could hold twenty to thirty gallons. (7) Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." When the jars had been filled, (8) he said, "Now dip some out, and take it to the master of ceremonies." So the servants followed his instructions.

These water pots were huge. It says they held 20 or 30 gallons of water each. A bathtub holds about 30 gallons, so you can imagine how big these were.

These servants must have wondered what in the world Jesus was doing. They might have looked at each other wondering why they should serve water to the chief guest. But they obeyed. [Teacher, pour water from a clear pitcher into an opaque one containing Kool-Aid.] And, something very unusual happened as they poured...

John 2:9-10

When the master of ceremonies tasted the water that was now wine, not knowing where it had come from (though, of course, the servants knew), he called the bridegroom over. (10) "A host always serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone has had a lot to drink, he brings out the less expensive wine. But you have kept the best until now!"

[Now pour the Kool-Aid from the opaque pitcher back into the clear one.] Jesus turned ordinary water into fine wine. And He helped keep a family from being embarrassed or humiliated in front of their guests. Jesus loves people and wants to take care of their needs.

John 2:11

This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

This was the first miracle Jesus performed. When the disciples saw it they believed that He was truly God the Son. The miracle showed his power.

Jesus will take care of your needs, too. Do you know what your greatest need is? [Teacher, entertain answers.] Your greatest need is forgiveness for your sins. Because without that, you cannot see God.

Sometimes our hearts are filled with the wrong things, such as bad attitudes and thoughts. We can change how we look on the outside, but only Jesus can change what's on the inside. We can ask for His help just like Mary did!

He can change us just like He changed the water into wine. Jesus is the Son of God and has power to change anything. He can change the worst sinner into a child of God!

One day there will be a wedding in heaven and you have been invited to attend! At this wedding Jesus will be the *groom* and His church will be the *bride*. Anyone who has asked Jesus to be their personal Savior will be there. The church is called the *bride of Christ*.

God created marriage between a man and woman to be a picture of our relationship with Him. He wants a husband and a wife to enjoy a close and personal relationship. And, in the same way He wants us to enjoy a close personal relationship with Him for all eternity. And it all starts when we are born again.

Object Lesson: Before class, place red Kool-Aid mix in an opaque pitcher, but do not let the children know it is there. Fill another clear pitcher with water. While you are telling the story of the servants filling the pots with water, pour the water from the clear pitcher into the opaque one. When you get to the part of the story when they draw some water out, pour some Kool-Aid out of the opaque pitcher into a clear glass. The students will be surprised to find that it has turned red. (Be sure to share your "trick" with them so they will know that only Jesus performs real miracles!) Pour all the Kool-Aid back into the pitcher, stir it up and share the treat with the children.

Discuss the reactions of people who saw Jesus' miracle.

1. What was your reaction when the water came out red?
2. How was this activity like Jesus' miracle at the wedding?
3. How do you think the guests and disciples reacted when Jesus turned water to wine?
4. Why do you think Jesus performed a miracle at the wedding?
5. What miracles does God perform today?

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for sending Jesus to show Your power and take our sins away. Help us look to You for help in every situation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Learning Activities

Activity Corner

“Water To Wine” Worksheet

Have the children circle the actions or attitudes they want Jesus to help them with. Or, have them write five or six attitudes that they would like to change on a “jar” pattern. Then, on the back have, them write the attitude that they would like Jesus to give them instead.

Game Center

Or, use the following review questions in a game of your choice:

1. Where did Jesus perform His first miracle? (In Cana of Galilee.)
2. What celebration was Jesus attending? (A wedding.)
3. Who else was at the wedding that Jesus knew well? (His mother.)
4. What did they run out of at the feast? (wine.)
5. What did Jesus do with the water in the jar? (Turned it into wine.)
6. How do you think the guests and disciples reacted when Jesus turned water to wine?
7. What would you have said to Jesus if you had been at the wedding?

8. Why do you think Jesus performed a miracle at the wedding?
9. What miracles does God perform today?
10. Can we ask Jesus for help today, too?

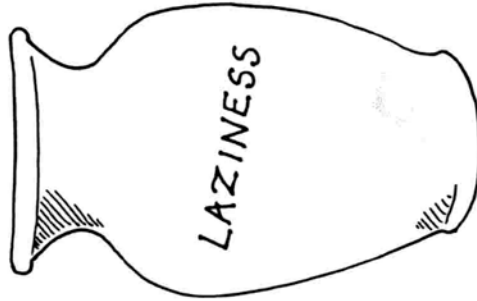
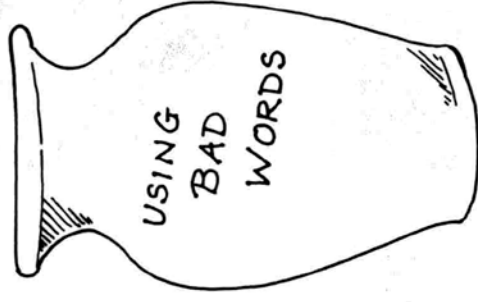
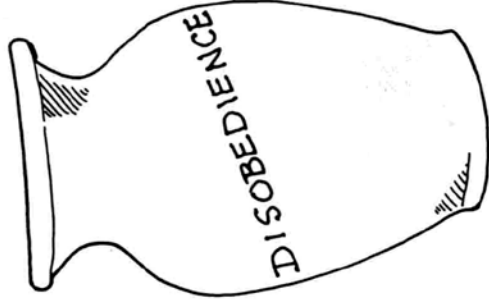
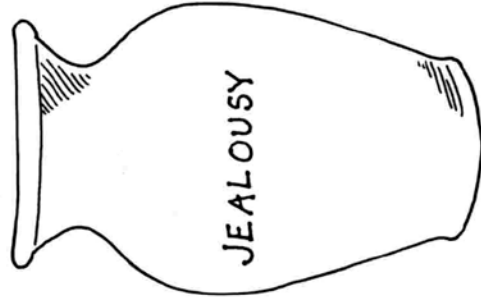
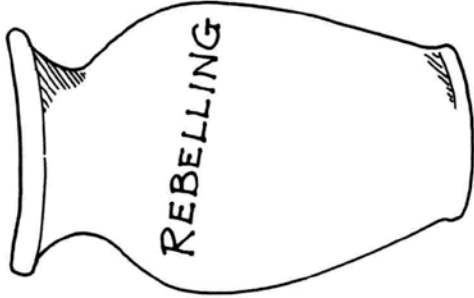
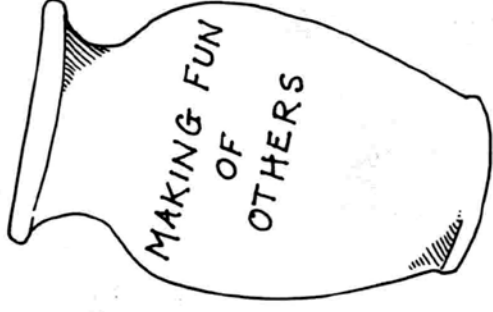
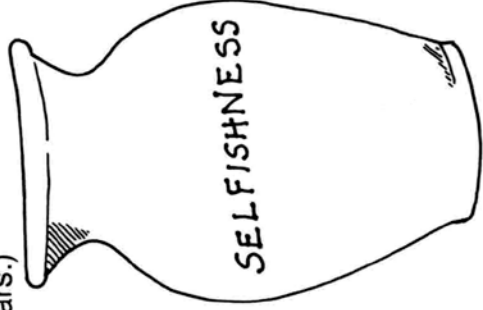
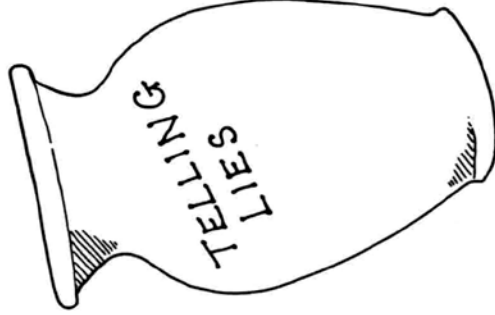
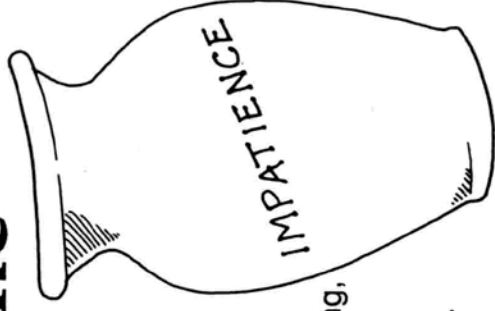
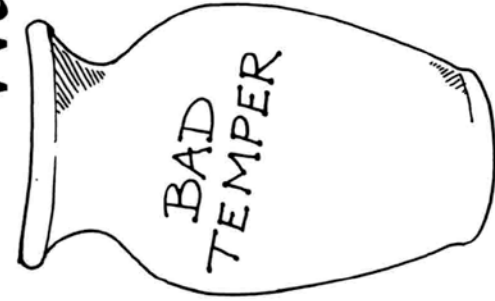
Water Turned to Wine

Changes

One day at a wedding in Cana,
Jesus changed water to wine.
The wedding guests all were delighted.
Nothing ever had tasted so fine!

There are things in my life that need changing,
Wrong actions and bad attitudes.
But I know if I give them to Jesus,
He will change them and make me renewed.

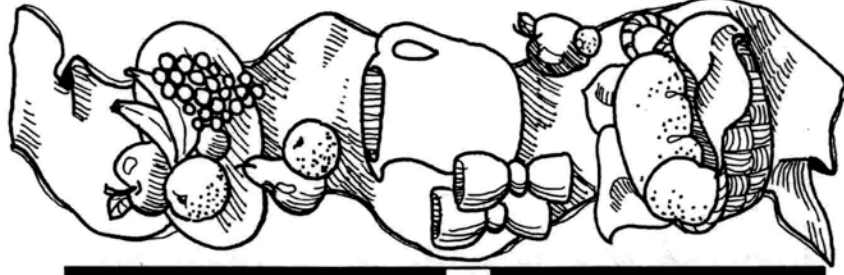
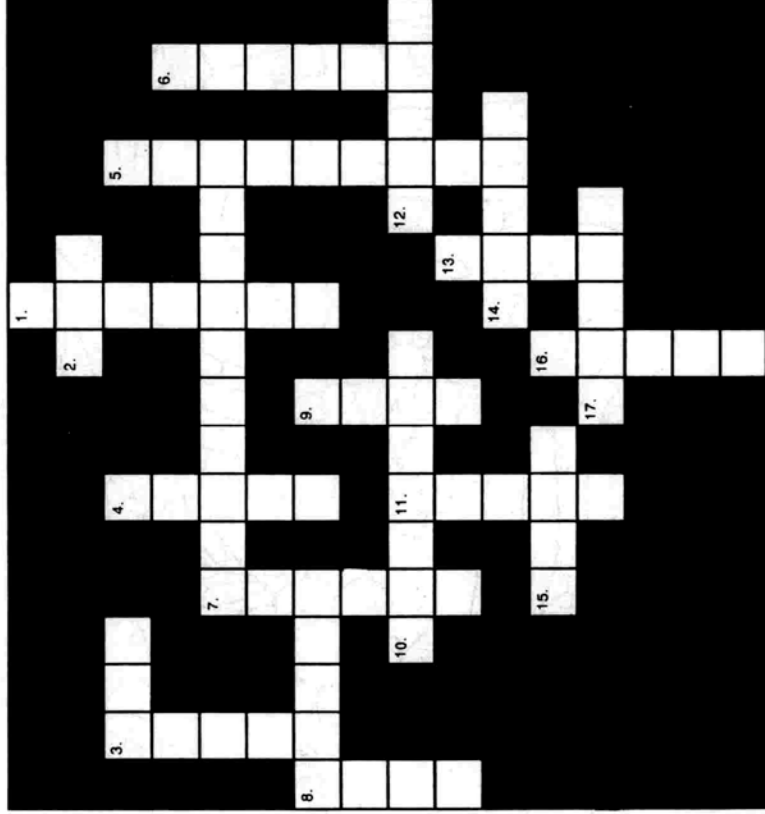
Here are the things I want Jesus to change in my life. (Circle the actions or attitudes you need help with, or add your own on the water jars.)



"Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me." Psalm 119:133

Water Turned to Wine

The words in this crossword puzzle are from the story in John 2:1-11. You may look up the verses to find the answers.



ACROSS

- Jesus told the servants to fill the _____ with water. (vs.7)
- There were _____ jars. (vs.6)
- This story tells of the first of Jesus' _____ signs. (vs.11)
- He performed a miracle. (vs.11)
- This miracle took place at a _____ feast. (vs.11)
- Jesus revealed His _____. (vs.11)
- This is another name for a large dinner.
- Jesus changed the water into _____. (vs.9)
- The disciples put their _____ in Him. (vs.11)

DOWN

- The wedding feast took place at Cana in _____. (vs.1)
- The water jars were made of _____. (vs.6)
- This was Jesus' _____ miracle. (vs.11)
- After this miracle, Jesus' _____ put their faith in Him. (vs.11)
- She told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do. (vs.5)
- He tasted the water first. (vs.9)
- This story is written in this book of the Bible.
- This is the name of the town where this miracle happened. (vs.1)
- Some guests had too much to _____. (vs.10)
- This wine was the _____. (vs.10)
- Jesus had changed _____ into the best wine. (vs.9)

