

Water into wine – Growth Group Study
27/9/2020 – John Malcolm

Do you remember the first wedding you attended? What are your memories of this?

How have weddings changed since then/what is different and what remains the same?

What do we know about weddings in Jesus' day/culture?

What might be the similarities or differences between weddings in Jesus day and now?

Read Matthew 22:2, Revelation 19:7–9

How is the image of a wedding or feast used to help us understand God's kingdom?

Read John 1.46, 2.1-2 & 21.2

What do we know about Cana?

Why might Nathanael have been critical of Nazareth?

Read John 2:3-5

What is going on in the interaction between Jesus and his mother, how is their relationship changing?

What did Jesus mean when he said his *hour* (time) had not yet come (John 7.30, 12.23 & 17.1) What does this indicate about Jesus' direction in life and how does it begin to prepare us for the time when his *hour* does come?

Read John 2.6, Matthew 26:27–28, Mark 2:22 & John 15.1

These containers held water, but not for drinking. Why might they have needed such a large amount of water (around 600 litres)?

How does Jesus "purify" his followers?

Read Isaiah 25:6, Amos 9:13–14 & John 2.7-10

How is the imagery of wine used in the Old Testament and how does this help us view the miracle at Cana?

Read John 2:11

John speaks of this sign as revealing Jesus' glory – what does glory mean in this context?

How did Jesus' disciples respond to this?

For reflection

What does it mean to you that Jesus has provided the abundant new wine of the gospel for you?