

January 15 Answers

- Today we read about Jesus' **first** recorded miracle and John's first **sign**. John's goal is to convince us that Jesus is the **Messiah**, the **Son** of God (John 20:30-31), and he does this by recording and calling our attention to various signs or miracles that Jesus performed.
- John tells us that "on the third day a **wedding** took place at **Cana** in Galilee" (John 2:1). Jesus' first two "signs" occurred at Cana: changing the water into **wine** (John 2:1-11) and **healing** the son of a royal official (John 4:46-54).
- In those days a wedding celebration could last as long as a **week**, and the financial responsibility lay with the **groom** (cf. John 2:9-10). To run out of food or wine would be a great **embarrassment**.
- Drinking wine in **moderation**, particularly with meals, was commonplace in the ancient Jewish world. At times it was **healthier** than the water that was available. The wine of Jesus' day was much more **diluted** than our modern wines, but it still could cause **drunkenness** if someone drank too much.
- Jesus didn't refuse Mary's request, but he did examine her **motives** and **expectations**. Jesus was dealing with the **nature** of his relationship with his Mother.
- First, Jesus addressed Mary as "**Woman**." The time had come for Mary to **submit** to him as Christ rather than leading him as her "son."
- Second, Jesus said, "What does that have to do with me?" Mary needed to understand that Jesus had begun his Father's **ministry**. She needed to appreciate what **kind** of ministry that was going to be.
- Finally, Jesus said, "My **hour** is not yet come." Jesus' life was carefully **planned** and **timed** in order to lead to Calvary at just the right moment.
- John summarized the story by saying, "This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his **glory**. And his disciples **believed** in him."
- When Jesus Christ came into the world, he brought a message of astounding grace: "He who has seen me has **seen** the Father" (Jn. 14:9). Jesus is the only-begotten **God**. This is the whole message of the Gospel of John—the glory of God, which is the glory of Christ, **manifest** among men.
- The disciples were beginning to recognize that Jesus wasn't just a prophet, he wasn't just some great teacher—Jesus was the **Son** of God!