

Light of the World: John's Gospel
John 2:1-12 **Sunday, May 19, 2013**

John 2:1-11 (ESV)

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. **2** Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. **3** When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." **4** And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." **5** His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." **6** Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.[a] **7** Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. **8** And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. **9** When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom **10** and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." **11** This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

Questions Related to Today's Message:

-Whatever your personal feelings on the use of alcohol, how much are they the product of biblical understanding? How much are they the product of culture or tradition?

-How does Mary's interaction with Jesus reveal both her faith and Jesus' own sharp focus on God's will for His life?

-In what other ways do we "bind the conscience" of other people regarding certain issues? Why are we motivated to overstep the bound of biblical teaching sometimes?

-Consider what it means that we are "the bride of Christ", both as a Church and as individuals. How does that imagery impact your sense of value in the here-and-now?

Supplemental Scriptures for Today's Message:

Ecclesiastes 9:7

Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has

already approved what you do.

Psalm 104:14,15

You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart.

Amos 9:14

I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.

Isaiah 55:1

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Ephesians 5:18

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

Proverbs 23:29-35

Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart utter perverse things. You will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, like one who lies on the mast of a ship. "They struck me," you will say, "but I was not hurt; they beat me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake? I must have another drink!"