

Week 2

7-Day Expository Bible Study through John 2

Seeing the Glory of Christ: New Joy, True Worship, and Cleansed Hearts

Memory Verse:

“This, the first of His signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.”

— John 2:11

Day 1 – Jesus at the Wedding

John 2:1–2

Theme: Jesus enters ordinary places and reveals His glory in everyday life.

Exegetical Reflection

Why is it significant that Jesus attends a wedding?

Jesus’ presence at a wedding reminds us that He is not distant from ordinary human life. He enters real homes, real celebrations, real relationships, and real needs.

What does this setting reveal about Jesus’ ministry?

Jesus did not begin His public ministry by withdrawing from people, but by being present with them. He came into the world He made and moved among ordinary people.

Why does John include this event early in the Gospel?

John is showing that Jesus is bringing something new. This first sign will reveal His glory and point beyond the wedding itself to the joy and abundance found in Him.

Personal Reflection

Where are you tempted to separate Jesus from ordinary life?

Sometimes we treat Jesus as though He belongs only in church, prayer, or crisis. But John shows us that Christ is Lord over ordinary moments too.

How does Jesus' presence at this wedding reshape how you view daily life?

It reminds us that every part of life belongs under His lordship: family, marriage, meals, work, celebration, and need.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is present and Lord over every area of life, not just religious moments.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the nearness of Christ. Repent of living parts of your life as though Jesus is not present or does not care.

Hands – What should we do?

Invite Christ into one ordinary area of your life today through prayer, obedience, or gratitude.

Prayer:

“Jesus, help me recognize Your presence in ordinary moments and submit every part of my life to You.”

Day 2 – Bringing the Need to Jesus

John 2:3–5

Theme: Faith brings need to Jesus and trusts Him even when His timing and ways are not fully understood.

Exegetical Reflection

What problem arises at the wedding?

The wine runs out. In that culture, this would have been a serious embarrassment for the family and a failure of hospitality.

How does Mary respond to the problem?

Mary brings the need to Jesus. She does not appear to know exactly what He will do, but she knows He is the One to whom the need should be brought.

What does Jesus mean when He says, “My hour has not yet come”?

In John’s Gospel, Jesus’ “hour” points ultimately to His death, resurrection, and glorification. Even this miracle must be understood in light of His greater mission.

Personal Reflection

How do you respond when something runs out: strength, patience, joy, resources, or control?

We often panic, hide, blame, or try harder in our own strength. Mary’s response teaches us to bring the need to Jesus.

What does Mary’s statement, “Do whatever He tells you,” teach about faith?

Faith does not demand control. Faith trusts Jesus enough to obey Him, even before the outcome is clear.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is worthy of trust even when His timing and methods are beyond our understanding.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the wisdom and authority of Christ. Repent of demanding that Jesus work according to your expectations.

Hands – What should we do?

Write down one area where you feel empty, lacking, or out of control. Bring it honestly to Jesus in prayer.

Prayer:

“Lord, I bring my need to You. Help me trust Your timing and obey whatever You say.”

Day 3 – The Water Made Wine

John 2:6–10

Theme: Jesus reveals His glory by bringing abundance where there was emptiness.

Exegetical Reflection

What were the six stone water jars used for?

They were used for Jewish purification rites. These jars were connected to ceremonial washing and religious cleansing.

Why is it significant that Jesus uses these jars?

Jesus is showing that He brings something greater than external cleansing. He is bringing the joy, abundance, and purification that only He can provide.

What does the quality of the wine reveal?

The master of the feast says the best wine has been saved until now. This shows the abundance and superiority of what Jesus provides.

Personal Reflection

What does this miracle reveal about the difference between religion and Christ?

Religion can point to the need for cleansing, but only Jesus can truly cleanse and satisfy. The jars could hold water, but Christ brings new wine.

Where are you trying to satisfy your soul with something less than Christ?

We often look to success, comfort, control, approval, pleasure, or routine to satisfy us. But these things eventually run out.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus provides what external religion, human effort, and earthly pleasures cannot.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the abundance of grace found in Christ. Repent of seeking satisfaction in things that cannot truly satisfy.

Hands – What should we do?

Identify one false source of satisfaction you have been relying on and ask Jesus to reorient your desire toward Him.

Prayer:

“Jesus, You bring abundance where I am empty. Teach me to seek satisfaction in You.”

Day 4 – The First Sign and the Glory of Jesus

John 2:11–12

Theme: The signs of Jesus are meant to reveal His glory and deepen faith in Him.

Personal Reflection

Why does John call this miracle a “sign”?

A sign points beyond itself. The miracle is not merely about wine at a wedding; it points to who Jesus is and what He came to bring.

What did this sign reveal?

It revealed Jesus’ glory. His divine power, grace, authority, and abundance were displayed through this miracle.

How did the disciples respond?

His disciples believed in Him. Their faith was strengthened as they saw His glory revealed.

Hermeneutic Reflection

Why do people often want Jesus’ gifts without wanting Jesus Himself?

We can become more interested in what Jesus can provide than in who Jesus is. But John’s signs are meant to lead us to faith in Christ, not merely appreciation for His blessings.

How should seeing Christ’s glory deepen our faith?

When we see His power, grace, and sufficiency, we are called to trust Him more fully, follow Him more closely, and worship Him more sincerely.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that the works of Jesus reveal the glory of Jesus.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love Christ for who He is, not merely for what He gives. Repent of using Jesus as a means to your own desires.

Hands – What should we do?

Spend time today praising Jesus for one specific aspect of His glory revealed in John 2.

Prayer:

“Jesus, help me see Your glory and believe in You more deeply.”

Day 5 – Jesus Cleanses the Temple

John 2:13–17

Theme: Jesus has holy zeal for true worship and will not tolerate corruption in the place of God's presence.

Exegetical Reflection

What does Jesus find in the temple?

Jesus finds people selling animals and exchanging money in the temple courts. What should have been a place of worship had become a place of commerce and corruption.

Why does Jesus respond so strongly?

Jesus is not acting out of sinful anger. He is displaying holy zeal for His Father's house. Worship had been distorted, and God's glory was being dishonored.

What does the quotation, “Zeal for Your house will consume Me,” reveal?

It shows that Jesus is consumed with the honor of God. His mission includes restoring true worship and confronting false worship.

Personal Reflection

How can worship become distorted today?

Worship becomes distorted when it becomes about convenience, appearance, profit, performance, preference, or self-centered religion rather than the glory of God.

What does Jesus' zeal reveal about His heart?

Jesus is not indifferent about worship. He cares deeply about the purity of worship, the honor of the Father, and the hearts of His people.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus cares deeply about true worship and the honor of God.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the holiness of Christ. Repent of casual, distracted, self-centered, or performative worship.

Hands – What should we do?

Before you worship, pray and ask God to cleanse your motives and focus your heart on Him.

Prayer:

“Lord, cleanse my heart from false worship and give me zeal for Your glory.”

Day 6 – The True Temple

John 2:18–22

Theme: Jesus is the true meeting place between God and man, and His resurrection confirms His authority.

Exegetical Reflection

What do the Jews ask Jesus for?

They ask Him for a sign to prove His authority to cleanse the temple. They want validation for His actions.

What does Jesus mean when He says, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up”?

They think He is speaking about the physical temple, but John tells us Jesus is speaking about the temple of His body. He is pointing forward to His death and resurrection.

How did the disciples understand this later?

After Jesus was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered His words and believed the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.

Personal Reflection

Why is Jesus greater than the temple?

The temple was the place where God’s presence dwelt and where sacrifices were offered. But Jesus is God in the flesh, and through His sacrifice, sinners are brought near to God.

How does the resurrection confirm Jesus’ authority?

The resurrection proves that Jesus is who He said He is, that His sacrifice was accepted, and that He has authority over sin, death, and worship.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus is the true temple, the final sacrifice, and the only way to the Father.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the access to God given through Christ. Repent of trying to approach God through religious performance apart from Jesus.

Hands – What should we do?

Thank God today that you do not have to earn access to Him. Come to Him through Christ with confidence and humility.

Prayer:

“Jesus, thank You for bringing me near to God through Your death and resurrection.”

Day 7 – Jesus Knows the Human Heart

John 2:23–25

Theme: Jesus is not deceived by outward belief because He knows what is truly in the heart.

Exegetical Reflection

How do many people respond to Jesus' signs?

Many believe in His name when they see the signs He is doing. However, their belief appears to be shallow and based mainly on amazement.

Why does Jesus not entrust Himself to them?

Jesus knows their hearts. He understands the difference between genuine faith and surface-level enthusiasm.

What does John mean when he says Jesus “knew what was in man”?

Jesus has divine knowledge of the human heart. He sees motives, desires, unbelief, hypocrisy, and true faith clearly.

Personal Reflection

What is the danger of shallow belief?

A person can be impressed by Jesus, interested in Jesus, or amazed by Jesus without truly surrendering to Jesus.

How does it feel to know that Jesus sees your heart completely?

It should humble us, but it should also comfort us. We cannot hide from Him, but we also do not have to pretend before Him.

Application

Head – What should we know?

Know that Jesus sees beyond outward appearances and knows the true condition of every heart.

Heart – What should we love or repent of?

Love the honesty and mercy of Christ. Repent of pretending, hiding, or settling for surface-level faith.

Hands – What should we do?

Pray honestly today. Ask Jesus to reveal where your faith is shallow and deepen your trust in Him.

Prayer:

“Jesus, You know my heart completely. Search me, expose what is false, and deepen true faith in me.”

Closing Encouragement

John 2 shows us the glory and authority of Jesus.

At the wedding, Jesus reveals that He brings new joy, abundance, and fulfillment.

At the temple, Jesus reveals His zeal for true worship and His authority over the house of God.

At the end of the chapter, Jesus reveals that He knows the human heart completely.

This chapter reminds us that Jesus is not merely someone who improves life.

He is the One who brings new life.

He does not simply add joy to empty vessels.

He reveals that all true joy, cleansing, worship, and access to God are found in Him.

John 2 reminds you that:

- Jesus enters ordinary life with divine glory.
- Jesus brings abundance where human resources run out.
- Jesus cares deeply about true worship.
- Jesus is the true temple and final meeting place between God and sinners.
- Jesus knows the heart completely.

You do not need to pretend before Him.

You do not need to impress Him.

You do not need to hide what is empty, sinful, or weak.

Bring your need to Him.

Trust His timing.

Receive His cleansing.

Worship Him truthfully.

And ask Him to deepen real faith in your heart.