

Text: John 2:1-11

Meaning: Jesus transforms our hearts when we trust in Him

Big Idea: Jesus turns our water into wine

Objective: I want the hearers to be transformed by Christ

Theme: Total transformation

TOTAL TRANSFORMATION

In John chapter 2 we see Christ's first sign. Jesus attends a wedding celebration in Cana of Galilee and they run out of wine for the guests. So, Christ turns 6 jars full of water into wine. Turning water into wine is a picture of transformation. So many people long for some kind of transformation in their lives. Lots of people would like to be radically different than they are, better people, more successful people, more attractive people, more prosperous people.

RADIO – I hear constantly on the radio ads for diet pills. This pill changed my life. Take this pill and you will lose 20 pounds in a month. That may or may not be true, but it sure doesn't sound very healthy to me.

SOCIAL MEDIA – Motivational speakers – come to this event or purchase these video downloads and find out how to become a millionaire overnight.

HOME MAKEOVER – Chip and Joanna Gaines entered television fame all because of their show fixer upper. We all fell in love with shiplap because of Chip and Joanna Gaines.

Transformation – so many people want something different in their lives or want to be a different person.

BELOVED – transformation doesn't happen overnight, and it certainly doesn't happen by my effort. True transformation – heart transformation that leads to a truly transformed life – only comes through a personal relationship with OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

JESUS IS THE ONLY INDIVIDUAL WHO TURNS WATER INTO WINE!

When you do what Jesus says, He turns your water into wine.

He can turn your watered down FAITH into something incredible and powerful

He can turn your watered down MARRIAGE into an intoxicating love

He can turn your BLAND EXISTENCE into something tasteful & joyful

He can turn your BORING JOB into a life calling

He can turn your TEST into a testimony

He can turn your YOUR STRUGGLE into a miracle story

He can turn your DEPRESSION into an expression of joy and hope

He can replace your BREAKDOWN with a breakthrough

THAT'S WHO JESUS IS AND WHAT JESUS DOES!

READ JOHN 2:1-11

If you want Christ's transformative power in your live today, what must you do:

1. GET WITH THE PROGRAM (V. 3-5)

When they ran out of wine, Jesus's mom, Mary, runs over to Him and makes the need known. She is pulling the mom card and asking him to intervene. Christ's response to her is not disrespect, it is the declaration of His Messianic authority. God had a specific timing and plan for Christ's ministry and ultimate sacrifice for our sins. So, what does Mary do – she responds with submission to her Son – who is the one and only Son of God now come into His role as Messiah. She says to the servants, "do whatever He tells you."

So too, today, we are the servants of the Lord – and if I want His transformative power at work in my life I must submit to the leadership of the Lord. Mary and the servants had to submit their

agendas, their timing, their plans, their effort, their thoughts on the situation, all to Christ.

STOP TELLING JESUS WHAT TO DO! HE IS PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF RUNNING YOUR LIFE IF YOU'LL WILL LET HIM!

By the way – WHAT PROGRAM IS JESUS ON? God the Father's program! He says here to Mary, "My HOUR has not come"

Jesus's life was not run by his mother, nor his earthly father or brothers – IT WAS RUN BY our HEAVENLY FATHER. We don't hear of Mary again in this gospel until John 19 at the foot of the cross.

God moves according to HIS OWN ETERNAL PLAN. HIS WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS, THOUGHTS NOT OUR THOUGHTS, TIMING NOT OUR TIMING, GOAL OR AIM NOT OUR GOAL OR AIM

I've heard people say before, "You know I prayed and it didn't work" or "I tried the church thing and it just didn't do anything for me" OF COURSE IT DIDN'T – BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT IT WAS GOD'S JOB TO MEET YOUR DEMANDS. IT IS NOT GOD'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET MY DEMANDS. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO FOLLOW HIS DIRECTION.

LIFE IS NOT ABOUT MY WILL BEING DONE IN HEAVEN – IT'S ABOUT GOD'S WILL BEING DONE ON EARTH

You and I must do the same. My intelligence, experience, prosperity, or success is not going to accomplish anything. It doesn't matter what I've accomplished or accumulated in this life – I CANNOT CONTROL GOD! When I try to control Him – I GET IN THE WAY OF WHAT GOD IS WANTING TO DO!

Sir, maam – TODAY IF YOU WILL JUST GET OUT OF JESUS'S WAY HE WILL MAKE SOMETHING AMAZING OF YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES

OF THOSE YOU LOVE! BUT YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT TO HIS LEADERSHIP!

God wants to do something amazing in your kids' lives
God wants to do something awesome in your marriage
God wants to transform your life if you'll let Him

THE FIRST MIRACLE HE WANTS TO PERFORM IS INSIDE OF YOU!
Jesus always works IN US before He goes to work AROUND US!

QUIT ACTING LIKE IT'S CHRIST'S JOB TO MEET YOUR DEMANDS!
He's God – He doesn't need our help. He doesn't acquiesce to our plans or expectations.

2. TRUST HIS PROVISION (V. 6-8)

This is obviously a historical event, but there is also much symbolism in what Jesus did here.

THIRD DAY – on the third day he performed this miracle in Galilee. There was another 3rd day, when Jesus performed a great miracle – and this miracle trumped all other miracles – because it was on the 3rd day that Jesus rose from the dead! When I call upon His name and trust in Him He turns my water into wine! He transforms my soul with His resurrection life!

WEDDING – Jesus went to the wedding to perform His first miracle. Whenever we trust in Him, there is another wedding that takes place – the wedding of our soul to Christ. He is the bridegroom and the church His bride! Salvation is saying "I DO" to Jesus!

6 JARS FOR PURIFICATION RITES

Spiritual cleanness or uncleanness was a huge deal to the Hebrew people. In Leviticus and Numbers in the OT you have tedious lists of what made a person clean or unclean and all the ceremonial washings that had to take place in order for a person to be

considered clean. By the time Jesus came on the scene the Pharisees had added more rules to the process of purification. So much so that they required people to full immerse themselves into Mikvehs, small pools of water, in order to even enter the Temple.

It's been said CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS. That's not in the Bible – BUT THAT WAS THE THOUGHT PROCESS OF THE HEBREW PEOPLE. Keep all the rules and laws and you will be clean. Additionally, the number 6 is the number of man – and therefore the number of INCOMPLETION.

SO DON'T MISS THE POINT CHRIST MADE HERE – when Jesus took these jars meant for purification and turned water into wine – He made the statement that what the law could not do He would do. Wine is representative of blood in the Bible, the wine that Jesus would provide through his atoning death on the cross would be superior to the law and would accomplish what the Law cannot:

Church - The Law of God does not and cannot save you today! Performance is not what the gospel is all about! Today, just take a drink of the precious blood of Jesus! Drink deeply of His love and grace and you will NEVER BE THE SAME!

Jesus completed the law of God, He fulfilled every requirement – and when we trust in Him He fills us with His joy and transforms us from the inside out!

TODAY – TRUST IN GOD'S PROVISION AND STOP TRYING TO EARN GOD'S FAVOR ON YOUR OWN! Also, stop chasing the things of this world that cannot satisfy.

The water of the world LEAVES YOU DESPARATE AND UNSATISFIED – BUT THE WINE OF JESUS SATISFIES THE SOUL FOREVER!

Today, stop trying to turn over a new leaf. Stop trying to quit this or quit that. Stop trying so hard to perform. JUST COME TO JESUS AND TRUST THAT HIS BLOOD IS ENOUGH!

3. COMMIT TO THE PROCESS (V. 11)

Jesus's first sign was for the disciples to see, learn, and believe. Before they ever went out to minister to anyone else, it was vital that His disciples learn of Him.

This sign, this miracle, was for the disciples. From the very beginning He was telling the disciples – This is what I've come to do men! To transform lives! To usher in a new covenant of truth and grace – and to make a new creation out of those who come to me by faith!

These disciples would go on to walk with Jesus, talk with Jesus, learn from Jesus – and eventually become great witnesses for Christ building His Kingdom and leading others into a transformative relationship with Him.

SALVATION – happens instantaneously

SANCTIFICATION – happens over a lifetime

The **MOMENT** I call on the name of Jesus for salvation:
JUSTIFIED, FORGIVEN, REDEEMED, DELIVERED, RECONCILED

This leads to a GOSPEL MOVEMENT in my life.

The moment I trust in Christ I now have ALL THE RESOURCES necessary to live a transformed life. I simply have to rely upon them through the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:3-8

³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted to us his precious and

very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.