DISCUSSION QUESTIONS · MIDDLE SCHOOL

Water Into Wine

The Gospel of John: Why Should I Believe? · Week 07 · October 25, 2026

LEADER SNAPSHOT

Big idea: Jesus' miracles are "signs" that point to who He is. At Cana, He fills the jars of the old washing rituals with something far better: Himself. Will we believe in Him?

Read together: John 2:1–12 · John 1:17 · John 20:30–31. Memory verse: John 2:11.

Time: 20–25 minutes. Question 7 is the one that lands.

WARM UP

1. **What is something people call "a miracle" that probably isn't one?**
   Pastor Tom's definition: God acting in a way that goes beyond the normal workings of nature.

THE FIRST SIGN

2. **John never calls Jesus' miracles "miracles." He calls them "signs." What does a sign do?**
   It points beyond itself. John 20:31 says these were written "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God."
3. **Jesus' first sign wasn't healing someone or raising the dead. It happened at a wedding party. What does it tell you that Jesus showed up to everyday life?**
4. **Running out of wine would have embarrassed the hosts in front of the whole village. When Mary brings it to Jesus, He says, "My hour has not yet come." What is His "hour"?**
   In John, Jesus' "hour" points to the cross and resurrection. Everything He did was surrendered to the Father's plan and timing.
5. **Mary didn't fully understand Jesus' answer, but she told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." What does it look like to trust Jesus when you don't fully understand Him?**

SOMETHING FAR BETTER

6. **The six stone jars held water "for the Jewish rites of purification," washing to be ceremonially clean. Jesus filled them with the best wine of the whole feast. What is the point?**
   The old way: trying to make ourselves clean. Jesus brings something far better: Himself (1:17).

SO WHAT

7. **Pastor Tom said, "We need to stop relying on our own religious efforts and trying to be good enough." What are the "stone jars" people your age lean on to feel right with God? What would it look like to trust Jesus instead?**
   Don't push for churchy answers. Church, being nice, Bible reading to check a box: all good things, but none of them make us clean. Only Jesus does.

THIS WEEK

Name your "stone jar": the religious effort or goodness you have been relying on to feel right with God. Then set it down and trust Jesus instead. Memorize John 2:11. Next week: Week 8 · Zeal for His House · John 2:13–25 · November 1, 2026