

Week 2 Class Notes

John 2:1-12, "Not a Normal Wedding Reception"

Opening remarks

- My goal is not to convince you of all my interpretations. If it were, I would simply lecture with all my ideas and reasons.
- My goal is to make you good readers of Scripture, to think about it well for yourselves.
- I hope you are beginning to see why every word matters. Quoting himself in Deuteronomy 8:3, Jesus said, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on **every word** that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). When reading a passage in the Bible, do we read as if every word in a passage matters?
- If "getting the general idea" is good enough, then that is the way we will live: in a general way. We will know the Father's purposes in a general way, live the supernatural life of Jesus in a general way, experience the Spirit in a general way, care about each other and those without Jesus in a general way.
- This week we will set aside Mark's "Jesus album" and pick up John's for a look at another portrait of Jesus.
- First, let's review page 1 of the Reader's Guide to understand how to **Recognize** and respond to the three main literary genres found in the Bible.

Let's dig into John 2:1-12

- ✓ Using the Reader's Guide page 2, prep the class on what to look for in the "Examine" phase.
- ✓ Read the text out loud to the class.
- ✓ Give "platform time" for participants to re-read, mark and share observations about the words of the passage with one another.
- ✓ Come back together for discussion. Ask only for observations about what the text says.
 - Examples: John's mention of interesting details such as number of waterpots and their capacity; the odd interaction between Jesus and His mom; John's mention of who knew and did not know.

After that discussion has sufficiently developed, move to . . .

Analyze (lead off cautions and questions are found on pages 2 and 3 of the Reader's Guide)

- A few examples of specific questions:
 - Why did John tell us the number and capacity of the waterpots?
 - What impressed the headwaiter?
 - What did John mean by "manifested His glory" and "His disciples believed in Him"?

Spend a few minutes on the "**Decide**" phase

- Ask one or two pointed questions based on the answers to the three questions immediately above.