

*A new series beginning Easter weekend*

# COMING UP EMPTY

FINDING ALL THE

WRONG ANSWERS

IN ALL THE

WRONG PLACES

## COMING UP EMPTY - WEEK 3

Community Group Study: You Have Saved the Best Till Now  
John 2:1-12 | week of April 10

### GETTING STARTED

*In what ways have you assumed (or been taught) that being a Christian means something less than living a life of joy?*

**CONTEXT** Skim John 1. What has Jesus “done” so far in this gospel?

**Read John 2:1-12**

**OBSERVATION** According to John, what was the purpose of this miracle (or “sign”)?

What strikes you as odd about this story?

**MEANING** Jesus seems reluctant to get involved in this wedding feast crisis (2:4). Why? (See John 7:30; 8:20; and 17:1 for help understanding what Jesus means by his “hour”.)

How does the image of a wedding help us understand what’s in store for God’s people? (See Isa 25:6-9 and Rev 21:1-4.)

What do you think John is hinting at when he says that this sign took place “on the third day” (2:1)?

## APPLICATION

When God chooses an image for himself, he is also saying something about us. If God reveals himself as the bridegroom (Rev 21:2), and if the culmination of history is the wedding supper of the lamb (Rev 19:6-7), what is God saying about you through this wedding feast metaphor? What are the implications of this in your life? What keeps you from believing it fully?

How can the fullness of joy Christ has secured for your future impact the way you endure sorrow and suffering in the present?

What habits or disciplines in this life help you anticipate the joyful feast that is to come?

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## NEXT STEPS ...

*Meditate upon the fullness of joy that God has promised those who are in him. Meditate upon and pray through Isaiah 25:1-9 as you do.*

*Make a list of things that Christ has done for you that are worthy of jubilation. Share a handful of items from your list with a spouse or group member.*

*Pray for someone in your life who is enduring sorrow or suffering. Search for ways to encourage them with the fullness of joy Christ has secured for us in the future.*

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