

## John 2:1-11 Jesus turns water into wine

### Set the scene:

Have you ever been to a wedding? What happens? At the party after the wedding what is the most important thing? What might go wrong?



**Read the story** from the Bible in John 2 verses 1-11 and this version of events!

Jesus and his mum and some of his friends had been invited to a wedding. This wedding went on for a long time and the people who were getting married had to provide lots and lots of special food and drink for their guests.

Everyone was having a lovely time but then someone realised that the wine had run out! This was a big problem - the party couldn't carry on if there was nothing to drink - and the people getting married would have been really embarrassed. Jesus' mum knew what to do - she told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to.

In houses back then, there were big stone jars full of water that people used for washing themselves - you would never drink the water from those jars! In this house there were 6 big jars - big enough to get into. Jesus told the servants to fill up these jars with water - right to the very top.

Then Jesus told the servants to take some water out of the jars and give it to the person who was in charge of the party to taste. The servants did as they were asked. The person in charge of the party tasted the water that had turned into wine and said it was the best wine of the whole party. Everyone had some and the party was able to keep going.

### Chat together:

I wonder what the servants thought when Jesus asked them to fill the water jars and then saw that the water had turned into wine?

I wonder why you think Jesus turned the water into wine?

I wonder how many people at the party knew that Jesus had turned the water into wine? Was it everyone in the wedding, or just a few people? I wonder why Jesus didn't make a big fuss and show everyone that he was performing a miracle?

### **Pray together:**

In many of Jesus' miracles, it was vital for the person that Jesus stepped in because of the circumstances. In today's story it just would have been embarrassing for the newly-weds to run out of wine but no one was going to be harmed if there was no more wine. Yet Jesus steps in anyway and simply and unobtrusively performs a miracle that the happy couple probably didn't even know that he had done. We can learn from this that God really cares about the small things that bother us on a day to day basis.

Draw an outline of a wine glass on a sheet of paper. Spend some time thinking about the smaller things that worry or bother you - maybe that you feel bad for worrying about. Write them in the wine glass. Say this prayer or your own:

*Thank you Jesus that you care about each one of us. Thank you that you are interested in the little and big things in our lives. Thank you that you want the very best for us. Amen*

### **Think together:**

At the wedding party when the wine ran out, it was Mary, Jesus' mother who found out that the wine had all gone. She was concerned and although she knew that she didn't have the means to solve the problem she went to Jesus trusting he could help.

What needs do you see around you - at school or home or in the wider world?

Like Mary, we might not be able to end world hunger or stop all bullying at our school, but we can follow her example and come to Jesus as our provider and ask him to intervene to provide solutions and help those in need.

The servants may have thought Jesus was crazy! But they were obedient. We may well too be asked by Jesus to be part of the solution in providing for the needs of those around us.

This story shows the miraculous way Jesus can provide. But it also shows how we can be part of the story if we are open to speaking out for others.

Thankfully it shows that we don't have to have all the answers but that we can look to Jesus to meet our needs and the needs of people around us.

Can you think of any times God has provided for you? How does God provide for us?

- Sometimes God provides through natural means, through the world around us and by giving us skills and abilities to work and earn money
- Sometimes God provides through others, like when we receive a gift or give to charity
- Sometimes we will see him provide miraculously as he did at this wedding

You might like to light a candle and spend some time praying together, both for the needs you see around you and thanking God for providing for your needs.

### **Make together:**

Everyone will need a small square or rectangle of silver foil. Now see if you can make it into a cup shape like a wine glass.

The best way to do this is to roll the foil into a tube and then twist one end to make the stalk of the wine glass, flattening out a bit at the bottom so that it can stand up.

Why not pour some water into each cup to see if they actually work? Probably best to do this over a tray or in the garden!

Keep your little cup to remind you that Jesus is interested in us and he wants the very best for us.

### **Colouring picture**

You could print off the picture below to colour in or why not draw a picture of Jesus at the wedding?

