



The village of Cana (*KAY-nuh*) in Galilee was located a few miles northeast of Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up. It was on the road to Capernaum (*kuh-PUHR-nee-uhm*), the city where the ancient synagogue was. No doubt, Jesus had been through Cana many times.

Sometime after Jesus had chosen His disciples, a wedding took place in Cana. Jesus and His disciples were invited to it. We are not told whose wedding it was, but it was apparently a Jewish wedding. A Jewish wedding feast lasted for several days, and all the friends and neighbors of the couple were invited.

In order to have such a large wedding reception, much food had to be prepared. Sometime during the wedding feast though, the wine ran out (it was not the alcoholic kind that makes one drunk). The people wanted more wine, and they began to whisper among themselves that there was no more wine. Had everyone been served? What an awful thing to have happened at a wedding—to run out of some of the refreshments!

Mary, the mother of Jesus, heard that there was no more wine. She turned to Jesus and said, "They have no wine."

Jesus said, in so many words: "Dear woman, what is that to you and to Me? Why do you involve Me? My time to act is not come yet."

Mary might not have understood what Jesus meant, but she was trusting Him to fill the need. Although Mary was the earthly mother of Jesus, He was also her Lord. She told the servants to do whatever Jesus instructed them to do. Mary knew that He would provide the wine that was needed.

# Church of God Sunday School

## THE WEDDING AT CANA: THE FIRST MIRACLE

John 2:1-11

Standing nearby were six empty stone waterpots. These were not regular waterpots. These waterpots were used for the ceremonial washes (Mark 7:3). Each waterpot was big enough to hold 2 or 3 firkins (about 20 or 30 gallons) of water. When filled, these waterpots would have been too heavy to pick up. These waterpots were not usually used for wine.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the waterpots with water." So they filled them up to the brim with water! (If there were 6 waterpots and each held 20 gallons, how much wine did Jesus provide for the wedding?)

Then Jesus told the servants to draw some out and take it to the governor of the feast, the one in charge of the wedding festivities. The governor did not know that the wine had been water—but the servants knew! No doubt, they were waiting to see what the governor would do!

When the governor tasted the water that was turned to wine, he called for the bridegroom and said to him, "Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse [or not as good]: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."

The bridegroom might not have known where the wine had come from or what the governor was talking about, but remember, the servants knew! They knew they had filled those stone pots with plain, ordinary water. Even though they did not know how it had happened, they knew that the water had changed into wine because Jesus had been involved. He was the One who worked the miracle. Sometime after the waterpots were filled with water and before the governor tasted it—the water had turned to wine!

This was the very first miracle that was done by Jesus. It manifested, or showed plainly and clearly, Jesus' great power and glory. It also caused Jesus' disciples to believe on Him. Jesus did many more miracles after that. Each one manifested His great power and glory, but Jesus gave the glory right back to the Father. He said He could do nothing of Himself; He only did that which He saw the Father do (see John 5:19).

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods."*

*—1 Chronicles 16:25*

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**"Thou hast kept the good wine until now."**

## Fill in the Blanks

Jesus and His disciples were invited to a \_\_\_\_\_.

Sometime during the wedding feast, the \_\_\_\_\_ ran out.

\_\_\_\_\_, the mother of Jesus, told Jesus, "They have no wine."

Jesus told the servants to fill the \_\_\_\_\_ with water. The \_\_\_\_\_ tasted the wine. He said, "Thou hast kept the good wine until \_\_\_\_\_."

This was Jesus' first \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus gave all the glory to \_\_\_\_\_.

**wine**

**Mary**

**God**

**miracle**

**wedding**

**now**

**governor**

**waterpots**

Jesus  
changed  
the water  
in this  
jar to  
wine.

