Game/Drama
January 2014
Jesus Turns Water into Wine at the Wedding in Cana
3 yr olds – 6th grades

Take Attendance

Memory Verse: [Jesus] revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. John 2:11

Read from Bible - John 2:1-11
Or (3yr olds - 2nd grade) Spark Bible Pg 410

Ask the following questions after reading the story:

1. Who was with Jesus at the wedding? (his disciples and his mother, Mary)

2. What problem came up? (They ran out of wine. Help the students understand that in that day and culture wine was not just a party beverage, but they drank it regularly with their meals like we might drink water or milk. The water was often not safe to drink, but the wine’s fermentation killed bacteria—and of course they had no refrigerators for keeping milk safe. Running out of wine, then, meant for many reasons that the party was over!)

3. What did Jesus do about it? (turned the water into wine)

4. Why do you think he did it? Was it just to help the guests or obey his mom?

(Jesus rarely did anything like this that was "just a miracle". He spent his ministry GIVING SIGNS -- teaching people that the Kingdom of God was coming and here. His miracles revealed who HE was and what people could expect from God.

A lot of people expected the Messiah to return as a Military Commander and do battle against the Romans. What is Jesus saying by turning water into wine, instead of going to battle?)

5. How did the wine taste? (v. 10—better than the original wine!)

6. What do you think Jesus was trying to TELL THEM by turning the water into wine and making it BETTER than the original? (God was doing something awesome, sweet and joyful in their midst.)

Imagine you are at a party and Jesus shows up. What could he change at YOUR party to signal the joy of the coming of the Messiah and God's Kingdom? (What would he turn your chips and soda into?)

Perform the puppet show. You can review the script (below) with the children and let them suggest changes.
Reviewing the rules for puppets:
• No playing silly with them
• No fighting with them.
• Treat them with respect

Have students choose their puppet. Remind them how to hold the heads of the puppets and move their mouths. Quickly go over the script and work on "blocking" the action --where puppets appear and what they do. Then perform the script with the puppets.

TIP: Performing on a real puppet stage will focus their energies towards getting it right. Rehearsing this and then performing it for a YOUNGER GRADE will also help focus their efforts.

Notice that the script RHYMES and should be recited in a sing-song way.

________________________________________

SCRIPT: THE CANA RAP

Characters:
Narrator/Servant
Mary
Jesus
Master of the banquet
Props:
6 plastic jars

(Servant puppet pops up.)

Servant:
A wedding is coming! It’s happening today!
I’m the busiest servant, I really must say!

Everyone in Cana will be here, it’s true.
And I’ve got so much to finish and do.

(Jesus and Mary pop up.)

Servant:
Well, look there is Mary and Jesus her son.
He brought all his buddies. I hope they have fun.

Voice (offstage):
Hey, Servant, be quick, the wine has run out!
Servant:
No wine?! Keep it down. You don’t have to shout.

If we’re all out of wine, then the party is done.
But lucky there’s Mary, and Jesus, her son.

Mary:
The wine is all gone? And the feast just began!
We’ll think of something. We’ll do what we can.
Jesus, my boy, can you help with the wine?

Jesus:
Mary, Dear mother, this is not my time.

Mary:
Pish-posh. Servant-boy, here’s what you do:
Do whatever my son Jesus tells you to do.
(Mary exits.)

Servant:
Here are six jars used for hand washing.

Jesus:
Fill them with water—to the top ‘til they’re sloshing.

(Servant exits and returns with jars.)

Jesus:
Now draw some out and take it to your master.

Servant:
I’ll be as quick as I can—no servant is faster!

(Master pops up. He takes a drink.)

Master:
SSSSSLLLLLUUUUUURRRRRRP...... AHHHHHHHH!
Why this is delicious! I’ve never had wine so good.
You saved the best for last. I didn’t think that you would!

(Master exits.)
**Servant:** (to Jesus)
That was amazing! A miracle! A wonder!
You’ve given me a lot in my head I must ponder!

**Jesus:**
It was a miracle for sure, that much is true.
But it’s only the beginning of what I will do.
For the Kingdom I’ve come, God’s will to be done.
A Feast of Forgiveness, and souls to be won.

**Servant:**
I’m dazed by your glory. You’ve revealed it— it’s plain-a.
I’m so glad you showed up to our wedding in Cana!

**Narrator:**
And that’s the first miracle by Jesus in John.
But there’s many more coming, as the Kingdom Son dawns.

**Jesus:**
You are water, get ready! For this is the hour,
When you can be changed by miraculous power.

My Kingdom is coming and soon drawing near.
God’s party has started, and your invitation's right here.

**ALL:**
"The End!

A Puppet Skit Lesson from North Blvd Church of Christ, Murfreesboro, TN: Originally posted by member Abby Rosser
Memory Verse Hopscotch  (Life of Jesus Series – Lesson # 4 www.SundaySchoolCenter.com )

Verse:  John 2:11 “…and his disciples believed in him.”

Before class: Using chalk or masking tape, mark out a hopscotch game on the floor with 7 blank spaces on it. On pieces of paper write out each word of the memory verse and tape each piece to the center of a Hopscotch square.

During class:

Say:  “Jesus had picked His Disciples and they were following Him. But when they saw this first miracle they were really amazed and believed in Him. The man who wrote the words in our memory verse was actually there that day when the miracle happened.”

Have the children take turns hopping across the squares and saying the words of the Bible verse out loud as they hop. Do this a couple of times each until most of them learn the verse. NOTE: Don’t have them hop back, just forwards!

Hot Potato

Have the kids sit in a circle. Show the kids the beanbag and the container with the slips of paper. Place the container in the middle of the circle.

Explain you will play the music as the pass the beanbag around the circle. When the music stops, the child holding the beanbag will take a slip of paper from the container and have them read it, or show it to you so you can read it to them so they know what to do. When they are finished, they should give the papers to you to set aside.

Sample of slips of paper:  Say, “Jesus had God’s power to do miracles,” while standing on one foot; Say one thing that you believe about Jesus; What did Jesus turn water into in this week’ Bible story?

Calvary kids pg 11 & 19

Art  
January 2014  
Jesus Turns Water into Wine at the Wedding in Cana

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**Memory Verse:** [Jesus] revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. John 2:11

**Read John 2:1-11**  
Or Spark Bible pg 410 (3yr old – 2nd gr)

Water to Wine Craft from Kathy Ross; she has several good books available. Take 2 paper plates and cut out a curved section from one. Have child color 1/2 of the plate blue & the other 1/2 red. They can color the plate with the cut out however they wish. Put this plate on top of the red and blue plate and attach them w/a paper fastener. Glue a brown jug cut from construction paper on one side of the plate so that it looks like the water is turning into wine as you turn the bottom plate.

**Best for Last Art Project**

1. Show the children your water jar (sample provided). Read the question on the front of the water jar. Open the flap and show them the red wine inside the jar. Read the answer written on the text box inside the jar.

2. Distribute the pieces of red paper, glue sticks and the water jar cutouts.

Have the children place glue on the backs of their water jars, EXCEPT on the flap area.
Have them glue their water jars to the red construction paper so the flap can be opened and closed.

See Figure B (in classroom).

4. Distribute the text boxes. Have the children glue the text boxes inside their water jars. See Figure B.

5. Distribute the crayons. Have the children color in the words on the jar and on the text box. Have them color their jars.

6. Distribute the scissors. Help the children, if needed, to trim the red paper around the water jar.

Wine jar with miracle in it – calvary kids pg 16

Take attendance

Memory Verse: [Jesus] revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. John 2:11

Today we will read about Jesus and he will do His first miracle. Do you know what a miracle is? It is when God intervenes in a circumstance by doing something special, and extraordinary, something supernatural!

Front of cup Back of cup
wedding M
banquet I
wine R
mother A
water C
best L
faith E

Reach for your water bottle and take a sip.
Say: “I’m really thirsty, but I don’t think this is what I’m thirsty for.”
Hand the bottle to a child. Say, “Could you please change that to orange juice for me. I’m really thirsty for orange juice. What’s wrong? Just say the words! You can’t do that? Can someone please help me out and change this water to orange juice? How about apple juice? Can anyone please turn this water into apple juice?”

Reassure the children that you know no one can really change water into juice this way. Explain that this will help get them ready for our story today about the very first miracle that Jesus performed while he was here on earth.

Have the kids find John 2:1-11 and have them read the story.

Show the children the paper cups and read the words (you don’t need to show them the letter on the back). Pass out the cups. Tell the children that you will read a sentence with a blank. If they think they have the right word for that sentence they should bring the cup up to you and place it down. When all the questions
have been answered turn the cups around to reveal the message.

Jesus went to a ______________ with his disciples. (wedding) During the wedding celebration, they had a ____________. (banquet) The servants ran out of ______________ to serve the guests. (wine) Jesus’ ____________ asked him to help. (mother) Jesus told the servants to fill the jars with ______________. (water) The man in charge of the banquet said the wine was the ______________ of all. (best) Jesus’ disciples were amazed and put their ________ in him. (faith) Turn the cups around and show the children that they spell, “Miracle.”

**Turn “water into wine” trick**

Do you think I can turn water into wine? Take the full pitcher of water and pour it into the empty pitcher. The water “magically turns” into wine. (drop of food coloring in bottom of second pitcher to “turn it”). What I did was a trick. What Jesus did was a miracle. Jesus made up for what was missing. He always seems to make up for what is missing in our lives and he really showed the people in the story his power.

**Just in Time:**
The children will practice looking up scriptures about Jesus’ miracles.

1. Tell the children to open their Bibles to the New Testament book of John. Wait until everyone has found it. Tell them to find chapter 2 and put their finger on it. Explain that together you will look up five scriptures that tell about Jesus’ miracles. Then, they will have a chance to look up the same five scriptures against time—to see who can do it the fastest.
2. Do the first round by saying each of the references slowly, waiting until all the children have located the desired chapter or verse. After you have completed these, tell the children to close their Bibles.
3. Have the kids pair up into partners. Tell each pair to put one Bible in front of them and close it. When all the pairs are ready tell them for the second round you’ll call out the scripture reference 2 times. When you say, “Go,” they may open their Bibles and turn to the reference and put their finger on it.

For the first round, say each section slowly and wait until all the children have found the desired verse.
For the second round, say each book, chapter and verse twice before saying “Go” to the children.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verse</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
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</tbody>
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Calvary kids page 3-4, 10 power of proof, 13 just in time

This is a guide to discuss the story more in depth:

JOHN 2:1-2

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.

Have you ever been to a wedding? Are the people there happy or sad? They are not sad! A wedding is a very joyful occasion. Jesus, His disciples, and His mother, Mary, had all been invited to a wedding in Cana. Can you imagine how blessed it would be to have Jesus at a wedding? When we grow up and marry someone who loves Jesus, our weddings will be joyous because Jesus is present!

JOHN 2:3

And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

Whenever there is a celebration or party, a host does not want the food or beverages to run out; he wants his guests to have plenty to eat and drink.

** In Jesus day, wine was the common drink of celebration. Their wine was not strong drink like wine is today. It was just fermented enough to kill any germs in the grape juice that could upset the guests’ stomachs or make them sick. In Jesus’ day, they did not have ways to clean water, but the weak wine they drank was safe because it was free from germs. Even today, in many countries like Mexico, India, and parts of Africa, the water is not good to drink; it can make a person very sick. Most of the water we drink is cleaned with chemicals to take out harmful germs that make us sick.

At a wedding in those days, the finest quality wine would be served to the guests first. If that ran out, an inferior wine would be served. At this wedding in Cana, all of the wine was gone. The
master of the feast would be embarrassed and maybe even upset about that because wine was a symbol of the joy that flows at a wedding celebration. He wanted to keep the wine flowing.

Jesus’ mother, Mary, noticed that the wine had run out, and she went and told Jesus. She did not entirely understand what Jesus would do as the Messiah, but she knew that He was special. She wanted Him to reveal who He was. As His mother, she must have longed for the hour when everyone would know that the Messiah had finally come. Perhaps she thought this would be the place and time everyone would finally know who Jesus really was.

**JOHN 2:4**

Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

When Jesus called His mother "Woman," it was a word of intense tenderness and respect. It was like saying "My lady." He addressed her with a deep sense of loving respect. Can you imagine them talking, just the two of them off in a shaded courtyard, with voices lowered? She knew He was God's promised One. Jesus was telling her, "My dear Mother, this is not the hour or place to reveal who I Am. There is still much to do before that time comes."

Perhaps He kissed her cheek. She understood that He would still produce new wine, but it would be done quietly, privately, without big fanfare and without full revelation of who He was.

**JOHN 2:5**

His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

Mary quietly and confidently pointed the servants to her beloved Son and said, "Do what He tells you."

She did not try to give the servants a list of Jesus' qualifications. When Jesus tells us to do something, we only need to obey. He always knows what He is doing. He knows how to keep the wine of His joy flowing.

**JOHN 2:6-7**

Now there were set there six water pots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

Jesus said to them, "Fill the water pots with water." And they filled them up to the brim.

These are wonderful verses. Jesus sees some vessels; six water pots of stone that could hold twenty to thirty gallons each. Think of how big and heavy a gallon of milk is. These vessels could hold more than twenty of those gallons of milk. There were six of these vessels. Wow! He was about to make a lot of wine, and all He was using were six ordinary vessels full of water (bring an empty gallon milk container to serve as a visual aide).
Jesus likes to do that. He takes our ordinary lives, just as He did those vessels, and fills them to the brim with His gracious Holy Spirit. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we can be used, like those vessels, to keep Jesus’ joy flowing over everyone we meet. Jesus delights in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

My Cup Is Full and Running Over
Set a clear glass or cup on a level surface.
Fill the glass or cup to the brim with water from a pitcher, allowing the water to "dome" over the top.
Explain to the children that the Lord fills us to "overflowing." Give the surface a bump, and illustrate that when our lives are bumped, the contents of our lives spill out. If we are filled with the Spirit of God, it is His Spirit that “spills out” when we are bumped.
Playfully splash a little water on the children nearby, and explain that when the Spirit "spills out" of us, others are touched by the Lord.

JOHN 2:8-10
And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!"

After they filled the water pots to the brim, Jesus told them to take some to the master of the feast to taste. Did the master of the feast know where the wine had come from? No! It was not time for everyone to know about Jesus' identity. His mother knew, and His disciples and the servants knew. But none of the other guests knew what Jesus had done. When the master of the feast tasted the wine, he said it was the best wine of the feast.

At most weddings, the best wine is served first and the inferior wines next, but the master of the feast said Jesus’ wine was best. His wine was better than the best wine man could provide.

That is how it is with Jesus. Our lives keep getting better and better when He is in them. That does not mean hard circumstances will not come into our lives. They will, but since Jesus is the joy of our salvation, our lives grow richer and better.

JOHN 2:11-12
This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.
We find here that Jesus did this miracle as a sign. He made His glory shine forth just enough so that his disciples would see and believe. The glory of His divinity shone through the miracle of turning water into wine. This was important for His disciples. They would travel with Him and learn from Him. Here at this wedding in Cana, their faith in Jesus was strengthened. They had caught a glimpse of His glory, and they believed in Him.

Jesus was able to share in the joy of a wedding, while at the same time letting us know that He is the true source of joy. His deep, abiding joy in the Spirit is intended for us because Jesus is the joy of our salvation.

If you find that you are lacking His joy, it may be because you have not asked Him to fill you or refill you. We need to come as an empty vessel and simply ask for Him to fill our lives to the brim and show His glory through us to those around us.

Lesson
3yr old – 2nd grade
January 2014
Jesus Turns Water into Wine at the Wedding in Cana

Take attendance

Memory Verse: [Jesus] revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. John 2:11

(The story explored in this lesson, Jesus turning water to wine at the wedding in Cana, tells of the first of Jesus’ miracles, and is significant because it shows how Jesus revealed his power to the people. When teaching young children about miracles, the use of magic tricks can provide valuable examples. Miraculous things do in fact seem magical to us! However, it is important to distinguish that Jesus wasn’t a magician doing tricks. He really does have the power to make miracles happen.)

Introduction: Ask the children what we would need to have if we were going to have a birthday party. After some discussion, use your “birthday supplies” and decorate the room for a party. Then say something like, “I think we have everything I need here to throw a great birthday party. I have a present and I have favors, like this hat and noisemaker. We can use these balloons for decorations. Wow, we’re ready to go! Do you think we have everything we need?”

Listen to what the children think might be missing and validate their answers. Hopefully, someone will think of cake. If this answer isn’t offered, lead them in that direction by
“wondering” if you need food or maybe dessert. Then say, “Hmmm...the party definitely seems incomplete without cake. This reminds me of today’s Bible story. It’s about a party too, not a birthday party, but a wedding party. Listen closely to hear if you can find out what was missing at this party.”

**Story:** Read the story of Jesus turning water to wine from Spark Bible, pg 410.

After you finish the story ask, “What was missing? Did you find out?” Continue the discussion with questions like: “So what happened? How did Jesus do that? What did the people find out about Jesus?”

**After or while asking discussion questions,** pour water from a clear pitcher into your second pitcher. Prepare the second pitcher in advance, by putting powdered drink mix in the bottom. Pour the water back into the clear pitcher to show the change in color.

**Discuss,** “Did I just do a miracle or was it more of a magic trick? When Jesus changed water to wine, was it a miracle or magic? What’s the difference?” God’s miracles healed people from various diseases or were used to help humans get back on the right track, to teach us important spiritual lessons. Magic is to entertain, for fun, to trick you; it isn’t real.

Say something like, “Wow! Jesus really made up for what was missing. He always seems to make up for what is missing and he really showed the people his power.”

Here is another magic trick:

**Pepper Trick**

Magician has cup or plate of water with pepper sprinkled on top.

Volunteer puts fingers in water trying to separate the pepper - nothing happens.

Magician puts fingers in water and the pepper separates.

Secret: Before show, rub soap on your fingers -- don’t let anyone see you do this. (The soap will separate the pepper)
What were we missing for our birthday party? A cake. I wonder if we there might be one around here. Look around a little and check in the closet to find the “missing cake” (mini cupcakes). Have a snack with the cupcakes and kool aid.

Have the kids help take down the decorations and clean up the room.

Wedding Conga Line Cards –

We are going to try to remember the story we read today. I have some cards with parts of the story on them. They are mixed up and we are going to put them in order and see if we can remember the story.

Color sheets available if needed.

Theater/Movie
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3 yr olds – 6th grades

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Read from Bible - John 2:1-11
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Show movie –

Greatest Adventure – Miracles of Jesus, 3rd – 6th grades

The story of Jesus and his Miracles, 3yr olds – 2nd grade