

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Extraordinary Joy

February 4 & 5, 2023

The story of the wedding at Cana from John 2 isn't about changing water into wine. It's about Jesus planting joy so deeply into our lives that nothing can uproot it. All of which begs the question, what could it look like if we lived into that kind of joy?

SCRIPTURE TEXT: JOHN 2:1-12

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Like the other Gospels, John's Gospel records Jesus doing some miraculous things, like healing the blind and walking on water. But John doesn't call them miracles. He calls them "signs". And he does that because John wants us to know that the miracle itself isn't the point. The miracle is pointing to something else.

The power of this story is not in the idea that Jesus can turn water into wine. The real power of this story is in the amount of wine and what it symbolizes - that Jesus has come to pour abundant joy into our lives. This joy is not circumstantial. It is rooted in the deep current of life that flows in us through faith in Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share a story about something memorable that happened at your wedding or a wedding you attended.
- As a group, brainstorm a list of Jesus' miracles recorded in the Bible (you can use Google for help, if needed). Which story of Jesus performing a miracle is your favorite? Why?
- What miraculous signs of God's power have you experienced in your own life?
- What miraculous sign of God's power are you needing in your life right now? Take some time as a group to pray for one another.
- "This life is filled with things that bring us joy." What brings you joy?
- "The challenges of life and brokenness of our world can drain the joy out of our days." What is currently draining the joy right out of you?
- "Faith in Jesus empowers us to hold sorrow and joy in tension." How has this been true in your life?

CHALLENGE: On days when your life feels more like a wedding that has run out of wine than a joy ride, hold onto hope and cling fast to faith. Because the story of Jesus turning water into wine promises that all signs point to extraordinary joy ahead.