

Jesus Turns Water into Wine

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Scene Summary

The play “Jesus Turns Water into Wine” is the exciting story of the first miracle of Jesus. The scenes include the wedding banquet with many guests...they run out of wine...Mary tells Jesus...Jesus instructs the servants to fill the six water jars...the servants serve the water that had been turned to wine...the master compliments the bridegroom for the excellent wine... thus Jesus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him.

Scripture

(John 2:1-11 NIV) On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, {2} and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. {3} When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." {4} "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." {5} His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." {6} Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. {7} Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. {8} Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, {9} and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside {10} and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." {11} This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

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Players

- **Narrator** – The play’s “catechist” or teacher should be a good reader with a clear voice.
- **Jesus** – God’s One and Only Son.
- **Mary** – The mother of Jesus.
- **Bride and Bridegroom** – They sit next to the master of the banquet.
- **Host** – The master of the banquet.

- **Servants** – These people wait tables and fill glasses. They obeyed Jesus and filled the water jars to the brim.
- **Disciples** – **Matthew, James, John, Peter, Philip, Nathaniel** – more disciples can be added as needed.

Special Props

- Normal items from the prop box such as cloaks, veils, robes and headdresses.
- A large serving pitcher.
- Cups, plates and tableware.
- Taping poster board into the shape of a cylinder could be used to make the six large jars of water.

Script – Jesus Turns Water Into Wine

[The opening scene is a home where the wedding banquet is being held. There are tables and chairs for the guests. Off to the side is the kitchen where the servants work to bring the food and drinks. The six large jars of water are in the kitchen.]

Narrator: There was a wedding that took place at Cana in Galilee.

[Mary comes and knocks on the door]

Bridegroom: [excited] Mary! Please come in! How are you?

Mary: I'm fine. Peace and blessings on this house and the wedding.

Bridegroom: Thank you Mary! Do you know if Jesus is coming?

Mary: I have seen Him in town and believe He is on the way with His disciples.

Bridegroom: [to himself] Oh my, I wonder how many are coming?

[Jesus and the disciples come to the wedding and everyone is greeting, shaking hands, and enjoying small talk with one another. They all sit down around a large table or several tables. The servants come and begin to set the table with plates and serve food. This action goes on for several minutes.]

[Then as the servant pours into the glasses and realizes they are out of wine. The servant goes to the bridegroom and whispers in his ear about being out of wine, the bridegroom leans over and whispers to the bride, the bride gets up and goes over to Mary and whispers to her.]

Mary: [gets up and goes over to Jesus] They have no more wine.

Jesus: Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come.

Mary: [calls over to the servants] Do whatever he tells you.

Jesus: [gets up from the table and goes away from the banquet into the kitchen]

Narrator: Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus: [to the servants] Fill the jars with water.

Servants: [take the jars off stage and come back with them very heavy. They set them down very carefully. These steps are repeated for each of the six jars.]

Jesus: Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.

Servant: [taking some of the wine from the pitcher, to the host of the banquet]

Host: [tastes the water that had been turn into wine. He smiles] This is very good wine.

Narrator: He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew.

Host: [speaking to the bridegroom] Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.

Narrator: This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

The End

Supplemental Information

In her book, The Man Born to be King, Dorothy L. Sayers has a wonderful series of plays that describe the historical sequence of the Gospel story. In her third play, “A Certain Nobleman” the wedding in Cana is brought alive with dynamic clarity. If you have the opportunity, it would wonderful to read this short section to your students. It will provide a rich and wonderful depth to their understanding of the scripture.

The first miraculous sign of our Lord was to help a nameless young couple out of an embarrassing situation to save face for a family that had not planned for enough wedding guests. Such is the compassion of our Lord. Not only was the quality of the wine outstanding, the quantity is in abundance. Again, these are characteristics of God’s revelation in Christ. Our God is super-abundant. “...God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:17)