Unit 3: GOD'S GREATEST GIFTS

Lesson 3.5: "We Have Nothing Left!": The First Miracle

Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

Bible Reference: John 2:1-11

For the Craft Activity: Brown construction paper (for an alternative option, consider using toilet paper rolls), "wine" and "water" cut-outs (a printable is provided with the lesson), light blue and purple or red tissue paper cut into squares, glue sticks, scissors, colored pencils, and a stapler.

*Note: If using the brown construction paper to make the "stone pots", cut the sheets in half lengthwise to make sheets that are 12"x 6".

Video Lesson: Jesus Turns Water Into Wine Lesson (duration 2:33)

Words of the week:

նշան – nshan – sign ջուր – choor – water գինի – keenee – wine

Overall Goal Or Purpose Of The Lesson:

In this lesson, children should be able to identify that the Wedding at Cana was Jesus' first miracle.

Moral Character Focus:

Reverence

Memory Verse:

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which He revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

- John 2:11

Lesson

Lesson Opening & Creating Interest:

Open with prayer: -

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

Lesson Body:

Today we will learn about the wedding at Cana in Galilee. This story is found in the Gospel of John (2:1-11). This is a story about Christ's first sign/miracle that took place during a wedding.

Q: What do you think is a sign or miracle?

In this story, Jesus was invited to a wedding in Cana. During Jesus' time, wine was a very important part of the wedding party because it showed the guests that they were appreciated and respected. It was considered very bad and disrespectful if the wine ran out at a wedding because the wedding would not be complete without the wine.

At the wedding that Jesus was invited to, the wine ran out. Jesus' mother, Mary the mother of God, told Him that there was no more wine and that the hosts of the wedding were very concerned. She asked him to do something and save the hosts from embarrassment.

At first Jesus told His mother that it not yet his time and He shouldn't interfere. Jesus said this because His time to be glorified and be made known as the Son of God was not yet. He didn't want everyone knowing who he was just yet. However, Mary insisted and told the servants to do whatever Jesus would instruct them to do.

There were six clay waterpots at the wedding and Jesus told the servants to fill the those with water, each one holding about 20-30 gallons. Although confused, the servants filled the pots to the brims with water as Jesus told them to do. Then Jesus told them to draw some of the water out and take it to the master of the banquet to taste. The master of the banquet was surprised, because it was the best wine he had ever tasted and he did not know where the wine came from or even that Jesus had performed the miracle. Servants could not believe their eyes. It was not water anymore, it was wine!

Q: How would you feel if someone made water into wine in front of you? (or water into chocolate milk?)

Q: How do you think the servants felt when they realized that the water Jesus had them filled the jars with turned to wine?

When something is impossible, yet it happens anyway – that is called a miracle and a sign from God. From the Bible we will learn that Jesus performed many miracles, but what he did at the wedding at Cana was Jesus' first miracle. In changing the water to wine, He revealed His glory to His disciples and that He was the Son of God.

Q: What miracles or signs has God done for you?



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Read out loud: —

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which He revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

- John 2:11

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY: Water, Water, Wine (like Duck, Duck, Goose)

- 1. Have the children sit down in a circle facing each other.
- 2. One person is like "Jesus" and walks around the circle. As they walk around, they tap people's heads and say whether they are "water" or "wine".
- 3. The person who is like "Jesus" should tell people they are "water" until they find someone they want to race, they should tell that person they are "wine". Once the person who is it chooses someone to be "wine" they get up and try to chase person who is like "Jesus" around the circle. The goal is to reach the spot where the person who was picked was sitting first. The person picked to be wine should race one way around the circle and the person who was it should race the other way.
- 4. If the person picked to be wine does not get there first, they become like "Jesus" for the next round and the game continues. If they do get there first the "Jesus" person, tries again and the person who was picked sits down.



Image and inspiration for the activity is from www.daniellesplace.com

Video Lesson: <u>Jesus Turns Water Into Wine Lesson</u> (duration 2:33)

CRAFT ACTIVITY: Water to Wine Paper Craft

1. Distribute pre-cut brown construction paper squares or toilet paper roles.

Note*: Skip steps 2 and 3 if using toilet paper rolls.

- 2. Roll the sheets up and staple them together to make tubes. These will represent the stone "stone pots".
- 3. Staple or glue six "stone pots" together to form two rows of three "pots".
- 4. Provide the students with slips of "water" and "wine" labels.
- 5. Have students glue the "water" label on one side then turn the "pots" upside down and have them glue "wine" label on the other.
- 6. Place glue along the inner rim of the tubes and have your students crinkle up the pre-cut into squares tissue paper and stick them inside the tubes. Make sure all the purple tissue paper is in the "wine" section and the blue with the "water" section.

Review

Memory Verse Review:

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which He revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him. (John 2:11)

Lesson Review:

- 1. Why was Jesus in Cana? (For a wedding)
- 2. Who asked him to supply more wine? (His mom, Mary the mother of God)
- 3. What did Jesus do when Mary asked Him to help them with the wine situation? (At first he resisted, but then He told the servants to fill the pots with water)
- 4. What is so important about this story? (It was Jesus' first sign/miracle)
- 5. How did the disciples respond when they saw what Jesus did? (They believed in Him and began to respect Him even more)

Life Application:

Miracles and signs happen all around us all the time, we just do not notice them. Just like the master of the banquet did not know that Jesus had performed a miracle, we too do not always notice the miracles Christ performs in our lives. Sometimes, we say the good things that happen to us are luck or coincidence, but in truth, they are miracles. We must pay more attention to the miracles that happen around us all the time.

Words Of The Week:

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Close with prayer:

O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

At Home

Memorize by next class:

Bible verse:

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which He revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him. (John 2:11)

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