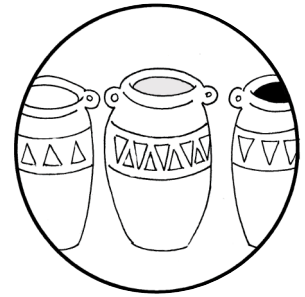


Lesson #4-18*The Messiah's Glory First Revealed*

John 2:1-11

**Key Verse:**

“Everyone serves the good wine first...But you have kept the good wine until now.”

John 2:10

The Point:

When Jesus shows up, God provides for the feast.

Unit Theme (January 7 - January 21):

Encountering the Messiah

Water into Wine (and Back)!

Completing a science experiment to turn water red.

You will need:

- † Glasses
- † Water
- † Baking soda or sodium carbonate
- † Phenolphthalein indicator solution
- † Stirring stick
- † Straw

Preparation:

1. Phenolphthalein (pronounced approximately fee-nolf-THA-lean) can often be found at pool supply stores, aquarium supply stores, or pharmacies.
2. For a stronger reaction, purchase sodium carbonate from a science supply store, or make your own by heating baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) in a 200 degree Fahrenheit oven for about an hour, changing it into sodium carbonate.
3. Sprinkle a teaspoon of baking soda or sodium carbonate in the bottom of one glass. Fill the other glass about halfway with water, and drop about ten drops of phenolphthalein into it.

Instructions:

1. **In our story today, Jesus turned regular old water into wine of exceptional quality. Our Gospel writer calls the miracles that Jesus does “signs.” Signs point to something. What does this “sign” in Cana point to?** [*Answers may vary, but may include: God, that Jesus is God/Son of God/special.*]
2. **One of the things that this sign points to is God’s abundant love for us. This bride and groom would have been very embarrassed if they ran out of wine in the middle of their wedding feast. So, not only did Jesus respond to this (eventually), but he made a huge amount of wine (probably over 150 gallons) and it was the best stuff around!**
3. **Let’s do a little science experiment where we can turn water into, well, red water.**
4. This is a common science experiment that changes water red (and then back to clear) using a base and a pH indicator, specifically using a sodium carbonate or bicarbonate and phenolphthalein indicator solution. For more details on the experiment, search online for “color change, water, phenolphthalein, chemistry.”
5. Pour the glass of water and indicator solution into the glass with the baking soda or sodium carbonate and stir. The water should turn red.
6. To make the water clear again, use the straw to blow bubbles into the water until the color disappears.
7. Phenolphthalein is a pH indicator that turns red in the presence of a base like baking soda or sodium carbonate. **Just because science experiments have an explanation does not make them any less amazing! God has provided so many interesting things in our wonderful world, including our curious minds and scientific understanding to learn how things work.**



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