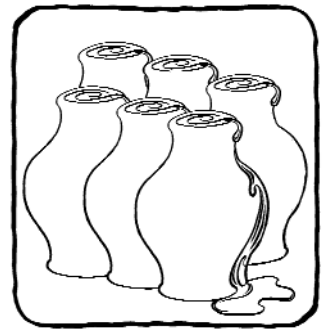


# Wedding Wonders

(John 2:1-11)



## WINE, WATER, AND A WEDDING

Read this story-in-rhyme while people play the parts of Jesus, Mary, the bridal couple, the steward, the servants, and the guests.

At Cana in Galilee  
Excitement runs high;  
The villagers rally round,  
A wedding is nigh.

After months of preparation  
And many careful plans,  
Cana hails with delight  
The happy maid and man.

Here comes the pretty bride  
And the handsome groom;  
Noisy, laughing, smiling guests  
In every corner of the room.

Everyone is having fun,  
Everything is going just fine,  
Everyone's enjoying the feast,  
And of course the sparkling wine!

Until a servant whispers, worried,  
"Oh, no! There's no more wine!"  
Mary, hearing anxious murmurs,  
Seeks out her son divine.

"They're in a mess," says Mary,  
"They've run out of wine."  
"They don't know what on earth to do,  
But *you* do, son of mine!"

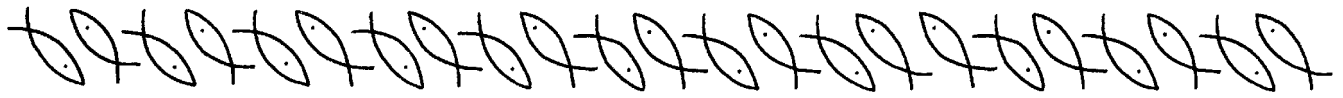
Mary tells the servants,  
"Do what this man says."  
"It's not my time," cries Jesus.  
But he helps out anyway!

He spies some jars and tells the servants,  
"Fill these to the very top.  
Keep pouring now, keep pouring,  
Until I say, 'Stop!'"

Six sturdy water jars, made of solid stone  
100 liters in each one—that's all fine...  
But what will the poor bridegroom say  
When his thirsty guests demand more wine?

Come, watch the water rippling, sparkling,  
In long-stemmed glasses for each guest;  
Water no longer, for now it is wine—  
Not regular stuff, but the *very* best!





## A JARRING EQUATION

**Instructions:** Color the jars to show that the servants filled them with water.

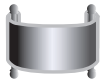
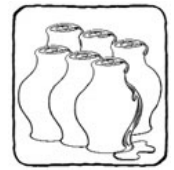
**Question:** If each jar holds 99.9 liters of water, how much water will be in the six jars after they are filled to the brim?



Answer: None! Jesus turned all the water into wine! (There were 599.4 liters of wine.)



# Wedding Wonders



Here's the Story (John 2:1-11)

## WINE FIND

How many wine glasses can you find on this page?

### VINE AND WINE WORDS

**Question:** What appeared on the tablecloth when the bride spilled some wine?

**Answer:** A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Use the clues to figure out the word that fits on each line below. (Hint: Each word has an *-ine* ending.) The word spelled in the shaded boxes will answer the question!

1. 


2. 


3. 


4. 

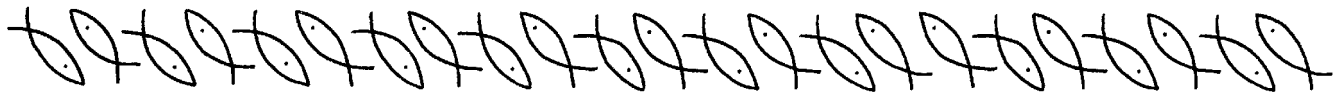

5. 


**Clues:**

1. pigs
2. string
3. narrow valley
4. heavenly
5. tangled

Clues: Swine, twine, ravine, divine, entwine. Answer: Stain

Grades 5-6 — 203



### Note Home



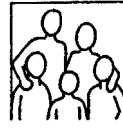
Today's session introduced your child to Jesus' first miracle: turning water into wine. Jesus was present at and participated in a wedding celebration. He intervened with power when called upon to do so. Jesus is present in *every* aspect of your family life, not just the celebrations. Do you, as family, recognize and acknowledge Jesus' presence in your home? Do you invite him to be a participant and not just an onlooker in your family life? Do you call upon his name in faith, believing that he loves you and will act in power on your behalf? Every morning (or night) get together as a family and invite Jesus to be the "guest of honor" in your home.

### Miracle Tunes



Fill six wine glasses with different quantities of water. Then tap gently on the glasses with a teaspoon to make tinkling music as you say the memory verse or sing "The Best Wine" (Track 2) on the Miracle Tunes CD that teaches a Bible memory verse. Listen to or sing this song as the *last* thing you do each day as a family.

### Family Time



Make a wine glass sing! Moisten your finger, then run it along the rim of a wine glass—and listen to your wine glass sing! Talk about wedding music or songs you enjoy. Play these when you are together as a family. Sing along, dance, or just enjoy listening to the music.

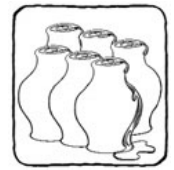
### Pray Together



Fill a wine glass with water or grape juice. Have each person take a sip, pray briefly, and then pass the glass to the next person. Make sure everyone knows that it is okay to pray silently. Continue until the glass is empty! (Tip: if your kids are very young, use a cup instead.)



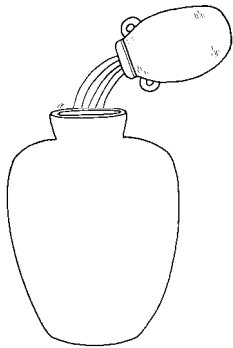
# Wedding Wonders



Here's the Theme (John 2:1-11)

## MORE MIRACLES

Check out the following Bible stories. What was the miracle that took place in these stories?

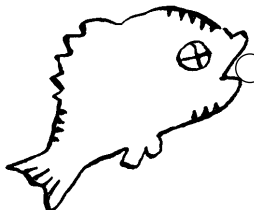


2 Kings 4:1-7

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Matthew 17:24-27

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## WOW!

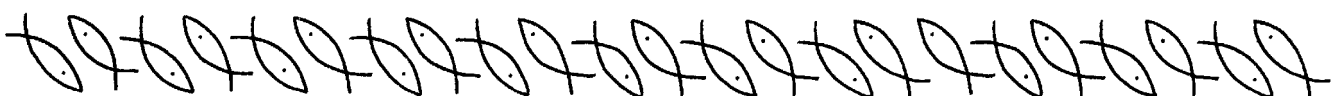
Use this praise shout to tell Jesus how wonderful he is:

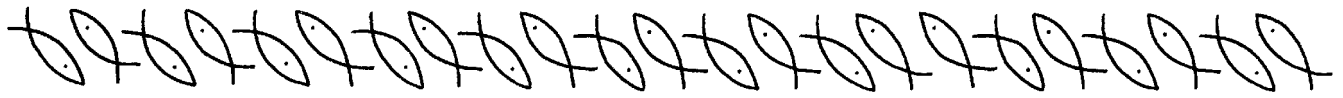
Wine  
Out of  
Water  
WOW!

# WOW

## THE VITAMIN DROPS

Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch Christian who suffered a great deal during World War II. She and her sister Betsie were in a concentration camp at a place called Ravensbruck. Someone managed to smuggle a bottle of vitamin drops to Corrie. She would give her sister Betsie a few drops each day because she was so weak. But there were many other prisoners who were also weak and sickly. Corrie felt that she could not refuse to share the precious vitamin drops with them, too. Soon more and more people were receiving vitamin drops, and Corrie expected the bottle to finish very soon. But it didn't. No one could understand what happened until Betsie reminded them of the story of the widow's jar of oil (2 Kings 4:1-7).





### Note Home



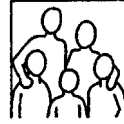
There is a world of difference between theory and practice, between *knowing* and *experiencing*. Today's session focused on the power of Jesus to perform miracles. We know that God is all-powerful, but have we experienced this power in our own lives? Have your kids experienced this power? Mary interceded, and Jesus intervened to save a newly-married couple from being embarrassed socially. Are there situations, in your life, in the life of your spouse, in the lives of your children, into which you would like to invite Jesus to intervene with power? Do so right now.

### Miracle Tunes



Listen to "Jesus Gave a Sign" (Track 2) on the music CD while doing something water-related: drinking water, bathing, laundering clothes, washing dishes or the car, watering the garden. Every time you hear the word *water* trace a cross on your or someone else's forehead as a blessing.

### Family Time



Experiment with making drinks. Use water or ice as a base and add different ingredients to make a tasty drink such as different kinds of juices, sugar, yogurt, and fruit. If your kids are old enough to do this on their own, ask each one to prepare their drink secretly and have the rest try to guess the ingredients! Taste everyone's creations and then choose a family drink—this should not be what the majority likes, but something that *everyone* likes!

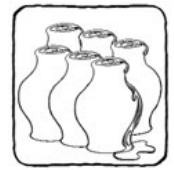
### Pray Together



Wedding bells peel joyfully at a wedding. Church bells sound a call to worship. This week, signal the beginning of your prayer time with the sounding of a bell or something similar. Be imaginative: use doorbells, a telephone ring, wind chimes, or even an alarm clock!



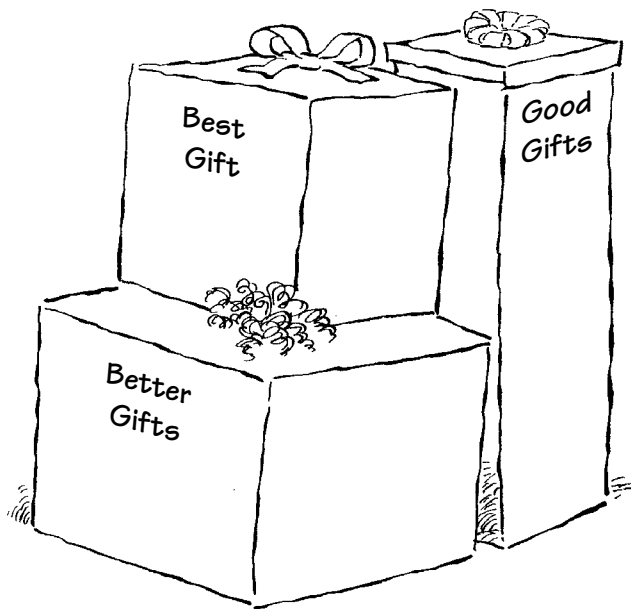
# Wedding Wonders



The Story and Me (John 2:1-11)

## GREAT GIFTS




Write down some great gifts you have received under each of the following categories. Also write who gave you these gifts.








**Remember:** Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. James 1:17

## CRACK THE CODE

Take a look at this Bible verse and use the words and pictures to discover God's best gift to us.

GOD  THE  OF THIS 

 MUCH T+  HE 

HIS  ~~1~~ +LY 

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## READ THIS POEM

John Three Sixteen—  
 God's very best;  
 for you, and for me,  
 and for all the rest!

Try to compose your own poem, song, or prayer based on John 3:16.

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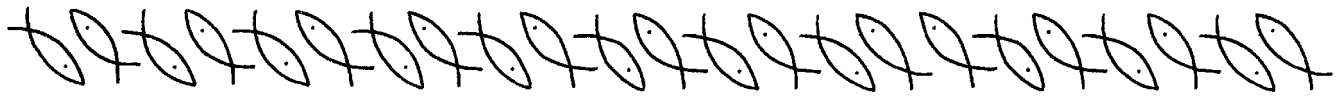


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### Note Home



Kids love getting gifts. Adults do, too! But do we sometimes forget that the best gifts aren't always material or tangible? What gifts might you, as a family, give one another that money cannot buy? Time? Encouragement? Forgiveness? Respect? Unconditional love?

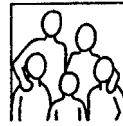
It's possible to become preoccupied with good things, or even better things, and still miss out on the best gift of all. Jesus is the most important guest in your home; in fact, he's a live-in guest! You could even say that he's family. Does your family enjoy the gift of his presence and the good gifts like peace and love and joy that he brings? Make it a practice to invite and welcome Jesus into your home every day. Ask him for the good gifts that you need, believing that he loves to give them to you, just as you love giving good gifts to your kids!

### Miracle Tunes



During your travel time this week, sing along with "Joy, Joy, Joy" (Track 4) on the Miracle Tunes CD. Once you are familiar with the song, go for a walk together and sing as you walk.

### Family Time



Ask each person to paraphrase John 3:16. They may also personalize it (e.g. God loved ME a whole bunch, so...). Encourage each family member to write a poem, prayer, or song based on some aspect of this verse. Enjoy and applaud one another's efforts. Consider sending one or more of these compositions to your church bulletin or newsletter!

### Pray Together



Have each family member take turns to name gifts (both tangible and intangible) that they are thankful for. After each gift that is mentioned, recite these words as a prayer-refrain:

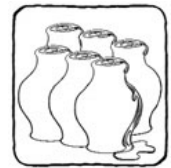
Thank you for good gifts, Lord.  
Thank you for your love.



# Wedding Wonders



The Story and My Church (John 2:1-11)



## THE INVITATION

Personalize this invitation by writing in your name.

★ *~~~~~* ★ *~~~~~* ★

# You're Invited

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest. John 10:10b

If you are thirsty, come to me and drink! Have faith in me, and you will have life-giving water flowing from deep inside you, just as the Scriptures say. John 7:37b, 38

But no one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again. The water I give is like a flowing fountain that gives eternal life. John 4:14

*Jesus*

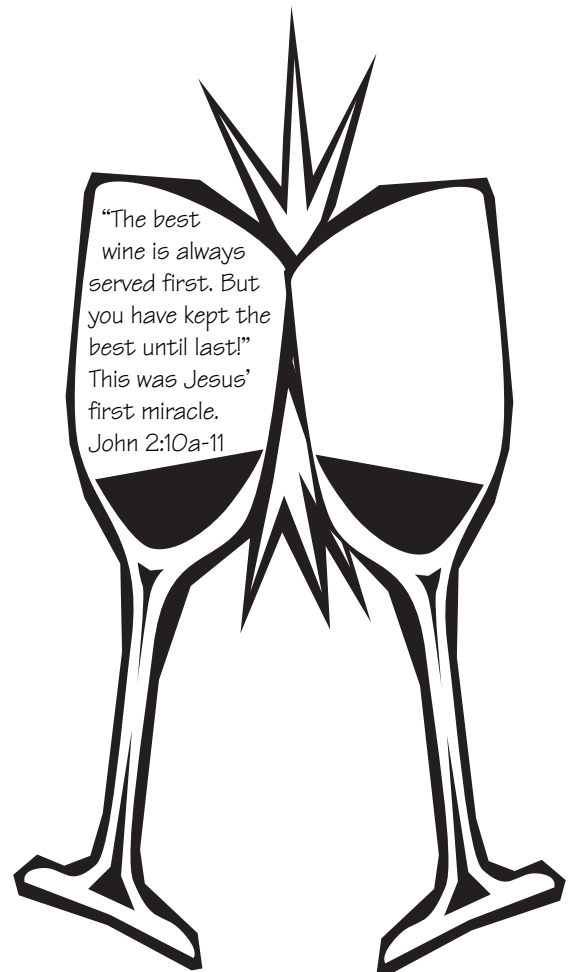
RSVP

★ *~~~~~* ★ *~~~~~* ★

## A TOAST!

The Word in a wine glass!

Your words in a wine glass...



How will you respond to Jesus' invitation?

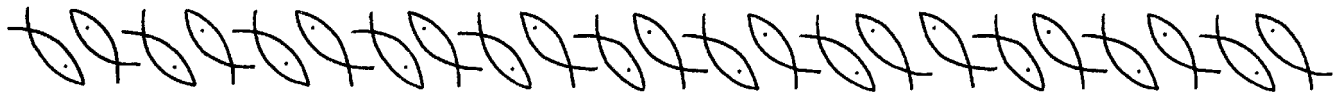
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Write your own toast to God inside the second wine glass. This could be a prayer of praise or thanks or even confession (telling God about your sin and asking forgiveness).



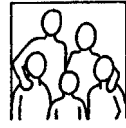


### Note Home



Today's Bible readings went beyond the assigned text for this week, as learners looked at Matthew 26:27-30, which describes the Last Supper. At the beginning of his ministry, in Cana, at a wedding celebration, Jesus turned water into wine. At the end of his ministry, in Jerusalem at the Last Supper, Jesus holds up a cup of wine and says, "This is my blood." We are all invited to partake in this celebration, which we call Holy Communion. Take time to explain to your family the significance and the blessings of Holy Communion. Is there a child in your family who has not yet received Holy Communion, but might be ready to do so? If so, talk to your child, your child's Sunday school leader, and your pastor about this. Above all, talk to Jesus about this!

### Family Time



Each time your family gathers together for a meal, take turns to toast a different person by having each one say something you like or admire in that person. Encourage the person being toasted to share how this makes him or her feel. Affirm these positive qualities in each one throughout the week.

### Pray Together



Give God a glassful of praise! Fill a wine glass or goblet with water, a teaspoon at a time. Each time a person pours a teaspoon of water in, he or she says a prayer of praise. Continue until the glass is full.

### Miracle Tunes



There's lively music and joyful dancing at most weddings. Enjoy Tracks 2, 3, and 4 on the Miracle Tunes CD together. All three songs are about Jesus' miracle at the wedding in Cana.

