# Gospel of John Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## John Chapter 2

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:* Two stories in John 2: 1) Water into wine, 2) Jesus clears the Temple... Water into wine is a much better talk for the beginning of the semester! Notice the context in 1:50... “You will see greater things”, then Ch 2 happens.
1. Jesus at a wedding? (2:1-2)
2. Water into wine (2:3-10)
	* Out of wine (2:3)
	* What now? (2:4-5)
	* Water (2:6)
	* Inviting servants into miracles, they do as Jesus commands (2:7-8)
	* Water into the very best wine (2:9-10)
3. Disciples put their faith in Jesus (2:11)... the beginning
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| Possible main point(s):* A water life turned into a wine life... You are invited (like servants, like the disciples)
* Jesus and joy... Jesus wanted people to both experience a great celebration at the wedding, but also every party has an end. For those who put their faith in Jesus the excitement continued.
* “They did so”... The faith and obedience Jesus asks of us (2:9)
* Put your faith in Jesus... plain and simple (2:11)
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| What this shows us about Jesus:* It was natural for Jesus to be a part of a celebration, a party. Not “party” Jesus, but “life” Jesus (2:1-2)
* Jesus can take the ordinary (water) and makes it extraordinary (the best wine)
* Jesus is able to do miracles, he is no mere man (2:9, 11)
* Jesus invites the overlooked (servants) to be 1) the first witness to the miracle 2) to participate in the miracle
* Jesus did miraculous signs and responded by putting their faith in him (2:11)
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| What this has to do with our life:* We can’t expect Jesus to be only “at a church”; be aware the Jesus might be anywhere in our life (2:1-3)
* God might be asking us to be a part of something we can’t fully understand (2:6-8)
* God might be saving the best part of your life for what he wants to do “right now” (2:10)
* God is inviting you to put your faith in him (2:11)
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| Relevant technical details:* “Wedding” (v.1) = Usually the entire town was invited. It was a significant cultural event. It could last for a week. Also foreshadows the heavenly wedding feast (Rev. 21:2)
* “Wine” (v. 2) = The host was required to have 7 days of wine available!
* “Woman” (v.4) = It could sound harsh, but in the original language it is not. “Dear” woman helps this.
* “My time has not yet come” (v.4) = Jesus is not ready to do a public miracle, this will be a private one only the disciples and servants will get to see.
* Ceremonial water jars (v.6) = For the washing of guests hands and possibly utensils. The capacity shows how big the wedding was. Also a sign that God is doing something new to the established Jewish purification system.
* “had too much to drink” (v.10) = You get the idea...
* “the first of his miraculous signs” (v. 11) = The gospel of John has 7 “signs” which are well established (2:1-11, 2:13-22, 4:46-54, 5:1-15, 6:1-15, 9:1-41, 11:1-44).
* “his glory” (v.11) = Goes back to 1:14.In this case a “behind the scenes” glory, which is one way God works.
* “their faith in him” (v.11) = Faith in Greek is best thought of as belief/faith/trust and even “risk”.
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| Possible illustrations:* Huge empty barrels / trash cans: Bring in some huge containers. This can help illustrate how big the party / wedding must have been. It also could symbolize our lives and what we fill it with... God might want to fill it with something you could never get on your own (the best wine).
* Pitcher of water / add a squirt of flavor enhancer (Mio/Kool Aide/etc.): Illustrate the process of a “miracle”, or turning something ordinary into something extrodinary by pouring in a concentrated mix like Mio or liquid concentrate Kool Aide. Then take a drink and say it is one thing to “know” and another thing to “experience” God’s work in your life.
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*For more details see ylhelp.com*

John 2 (NIV84)

*Jesus Changes Water to Wine*

**2** 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.

*Jesus Clears the Temple*

12 After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days.

13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!”

17 His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

18 Then the Jews demanded of him, “What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

20 The Jews replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

23 Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. 24 But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. 25 He did not need man’s testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.