

What does wine symbolize in the Bible? (Hint: take a look at Psalm 104:5; Isaiah 55:1; Judges 9:13)

What significance do you see in Jesus using water jars that were typically used by the Jews for ceremonial washing?

In verse 11 we read that this 'sign' revealed Jesus' glory and led his disciples to believe in him. What do you think this miracle reveals about Jesus' glory?

What implications can you see for followers of Jesus?

Is God saying anything to you through this passage?

Finish by praying for each other. Pray that we would all experience the newness and joy that Jesus brings and that is ours because of the forgiveness and new life he has won for us on the cross. Pray that others would be drawn to want to know Jesus as they see the difference he has made in our lives.



**A Light in the Darkness**  
**The Gospel of John**  
**Growth Group Study Guide**  
**Week 2**  
**12 February 2023**  
**“New Beginnings”**  
**John 2: 1-11**

**Series Overview:**

In this ten week series, we will look at a Gospel book that is quite different to the other three Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke). John wrote this book much later than the other writers, and used a different technique and style. We will reflect on passages and stories that are unique to this Gospel, and seek to capture the passion and desire of the author. John primarily wrote this letter so that the readers would believe in Christ, who he describes as a Light in the Darkness. May the Light of Christ shine into our lives as we spend time in this book, and help us to believe in the One who came to bring life in all of its abundance.

Start by sharing some 'new beginnings' you have experienced in recent times.

Review John chapter 1 and list 3 or 4 things we learn about Jesus in that chapter:

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**Read John 2:1-11**

Give everyone a chance to reflect and to write down one thing that stands out to them in this story – something they particularly like, or don't like, or a question that arises for them. What stands out for you?

Each take a turn to share what you wrote down.

As you re-read verses 1-3, what do you see that reminds us that Jesus, 'Word made flesh', was truly and fully human?

Now re-read verses 4-5. When Jesus addresses his mother, 'Woman, why do you involve me?' the Greek isn't disrespectful even if it may seem a bit that way in our English translation. And when Jesus says, 'my hour has not yet come', this is language that looks ahead to his glory as it would be revealed in the cross and resurrection.

What do you think Mary may have felt about Jesus' response?

What do you think Mary may have expected when she instructs the servants to "Do whatever he tells you" (remember, this is his first miraculous 'sign')?

Review verses 4 – 11 and note down anything you see that reminds us that Jesus, 'Word made flesh', was truly and fully God:

Jesus did a lot of miracles. He brought wholeness by healing sickness, gave freedom by casting out demons, and provided safety by calming wind and waves. What does this miracle achieve for people?