

SERMON: A Conversation with Jesus' Mom

May 12, 2019

SERIES: Conversations with Jesus

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-12.

SERMON OUTLINE: I. The meaning of the conversation II. The meaning of the miracle III. Lessons

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. Jesus' conversation with Mary at the wedding connects his future death to his future wedding (to the church). "Jesus took our cup of wrath so that we can be married to Jesus." How does this reality affect you? Encourage you?
2. Jesus is the Lord of the Wedding feast. He wants to bring us to a place of great joy. Is this your Jesus? Is this how you share Jesus with others? What makes this difficult or easy to do?
3. We can endure the suffering around us by "sipping the cup of joy." What is one way you can "sip the cup of joy" this week? Or...how can looking forward to future joy allow you to endure suffering today?
4. Talk about these evangelism lessons from the conversation: a) Present the kingdom of God as a wedding banquet or party, b) Trust Jesus to take ordinary things and use them to do extraordinary things, c) Show the world that lasting joy can sustain earthly struggles. Which of these stands out to you? Why?

Pray: Thank God that Christ came down the ladder for you; ask God to show you ways to invite others to meet Jesus.