SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - Mar. 6-7, 2021

Title: Fill it to the Brim
Text: John 2:1-11
Target: The first of seven signs in the gospel of John takes place at a wedding feast pointing to THE EVIDENCE of something more. Today’s effort is to draw that out!

I. **A Savior Shows up at a Wedding**:

   “Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples.” (Vs. 2)
   A. Jesus was approachable
   B. Jesus was available

**Question #1:**
What does the fact that Jesus was approachable and available say about who he is? Hebrews 1:3 says that he is the exact imprint of the nature of God. Because it is in God’s nature to be approachable and available, he sent Jesus to the cross so that we could approach him every day. Meditate on this fact of what he’s done for us and ask yourself, “What does this say about who I am to God, and how do I get to encounter Him differently because of this?” Share your thoughts with your group.

II. **A Supply Shortage of Wine**:

   “When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, They have no wine.” (Vs. 3)
   A. Request of Mary:
      1. Moment of Crisis
      2. Mistake that’s Costly
   B. Response of Jesus: “And Jesus said to her, Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” (Vs. 4)

III. **A Simple Statement of Wisdom**:

   “His mother said to the servants, Do whatever he tells you.” (Vs. 5)
   A. Take it to Jesus
   B. Trust it with Jesus

**Question #2:**
1 Peter 5:6-7 says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” The servants here were anxious. Nothing seemed to be going right for them! But Mary instructed them to obey Jesus. Has there ever been a situation in which there was a lot of anxiety, and you chose to trust Jesus and obey him, instead of figuring things out for yourself? Or maybe you didn’t trust him, and you tried on your own and failed. Discuss these situations with your group and talk about what you learned from them.

IV. **A Stated Significance of the Waterpots**:

   “Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.” (Vs. 6)
   A. Old Covenant: Purification came from following Customs
   B. New Covenant: Purification comes from following Christ
V. **A Strategic Surrender by the Workers:** “Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it.” (Vs. 7-8)

- **A. Spirit of Expectation:** “filled them up to the brim”
- **B. Spirit of Expediency:** “so they took it”

**Question #3:**
Hebrews 11:1 tells us that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for...” Faith is all about having high expectations. In the last question, we discussed how the servants obeyed and trusted Jesus in the midst of their anxiety. Now we’ve seen that they also had high expectations of what Jesus would do, even if they had no clue of what it was. Remember that this is Jesus’ first of signs and wonders. He did even more, including rising from the dead! Where in your life right now are you having low expectations for Jesus? Knowing that the same Jesus who rose from the dead cares for you as we saw in 1 Peter, discuss how you get to change your expectations for what Jesus can do in your life, and how that will affect your ways going forward. If you already have high expectations for Jesus, share with your group the experiences that got you to that point!

VI. **A Sign Serves as a Witness:** “This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.” - John 2:11

- **A. Not all will See:** “When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.” (Vs. 9)
- **B. Provision is Abundant:** ”Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine.” (Vs. 10a)
- **C. Best is yet to Come:** “But you have kept the good wine until now.” (Vs. 10b)

**Takeaway:** When your resources run out, take it to Jesus. When your religion runs out, trust it with Jesus.

**Question #4:**
In light of the first three questions, what resources are you lacking in your life? Is your religion running out? Make a plan with your group on how you’re going to take everything to Jesus, and trust him with everything.

Check out this scene in **The Chosen!**