

Life Group Leader Guide

Series: Believe and Be Changed

Sermon: *Life of the Party*

Text: John 2:1–12

Date: October 26, 2025

Theme: When Jesus shows up, joy breaks out. His first miracle at Cana wasn't just about saving a wedding—it revealed who He truly is: the Bridegroom who brings abundant life, transforms religion into relationship, and invites us to the ultimate celebration of His Kingdom.

Icebreaker: (you can pick one)

- What's one of the most memorable weddings or celebrations you've ever been to—and why?
- Describe a time when joy showed up in an unexpected place.

Read Together: John 2:1–12

Discussion Questions

1. Where Jesus Shows Up, Joy Breaks Out

Jesus chose to perform His first miracle not in a temple, but at a wedding in a small village.

- Why do you think Jesus began His ministry with a joyful celebration rather than something more “serious”?
- What does this tell us about God's heart for ordinary people and ordinary places?
- In what ways have you seen Jesus bring joy into your life or community recently?

Read **Isaiah 25:6–8**.

- How does this picture of a heavenly banquet connect to what happened at Cana?

- How might this reshape the way we think about life in God’s Kingdom—not as subtraction of bad things, but abundance of good?

2. Jesus Reveals Himself as the True Bridegroom

Jesus’ words, “My hour has not yet come,” point ahead to His death—the moment when He would give Himself for His Bride, the Church.

- What are some characteristics of a good husband/groom?
- How does viewing Jesus as the Bridegroom change the way we understand His love for us?
- Where has the metaphorical wine run out of your life? What would it mean for Jesus to multiply your joy?

Read **Hosea 2:19** and **Isaiah 62:5**.

- What does it mean to you that God will never break his covenant of love with you like a faithful husband?

3. From Water to Wine — From Religion to Relationship

The water jars at the wedding were used for ritual cleansing, but Jesus turned them into wine for celebration.

- What’s the difference between religion and relationship in your own walk with Jesus?
- In what ways do we sometimes settle for “water” when Jesus offers “wine”?
- Do you think people see church as a place of celebration and joy? How can we witness to God’s goodness and abundance to unbelievers?

Read **Revelation 19:6–9**.

- What gives you hope as you look forward to the ultimate “wedding feast” described?

Personal Application:

- Where in your life do you need Jesus to turn water into wine—to bring transformation, joy, or new life?

- How can your group embody the joy and abundance of the Kingdom in your neighborhood or relationships this week?

Personal reading

These readings are meant to help you prepare for and understand next week's sermon. Take some time during the week to read a few passages of scripture and meditate on how they relate to John 2:13-25, where Jesus cleanses the temple.

- **John 2:13-25** Jesus Cleanses the Temple
- **Exodus 11:4 - 12:24** Israel freed from slavery and the Passover
- **Psalms 69:9** Prophecy of the coming Messiah's love for the House of God
- **Luke 2:22-52** Jesus dedicated at the temple and again in the temple at 12
- **Matthew 24:1-2** Destruction of the temple foretold by Jesus
- **Hebrews 10:1** Jesus is the better temple
- **Colossians 2:17** Jesus fulfills the temple sacrificial services