

## More Than a Miracle – Week 2 Small Group Questions

### Ice Breaker

1. What is something silly your grandparents or parents did with you growing up, similar to how Pastor Jeff's grandfather tricked him with the traffic lights? Have you done fun stuff like that with your children or grandchildren?
2. Besides the resurrection, what miracle would you have loved to see Jesus perform?
3. What is a miracle you would love for Jesus to perform for you?

### Scripture

John 2:1-12, On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, 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 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." What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days.

### Discuss

1. When Mary was in need, the first thing she did was go to Jesus. How often do you pray to Jesus first instead of trying to fix your needs alone?

2. Pastor Jeff said, “Something I want to challenge us to eliminate from our Christian vocabulary is this: ‘Well, all we can do now is pray.’ As if prayer is our last resort. When we are in need, prayer should not be our last resort. It should be our first and ongoing resort.” **Have you been guilty of treating prayer as a last resort? Share how prayer has made an impact in your life.**
3. Pastor Jeff pointed out that while Jesus doesn't have to use other people, he chooses to. In the example of turning water into wine, Jesus chose to work alongside the servants. They obeyed by collecting the water before he performed a miracle. In that way, they were welcomed to be part of a miracle. Jeff shared how God partners with him in his preaching. He has to sit down each week to do the work of sermon writing, and then God works through those messages to change lives. **How often are we willing to work alongside the Lord, doing our part to receive an answer to our prayers, and how often do we expect God to fix it for us? Share some other examples of how we could partner with God with our needs.**
4. Looking back at the Scripture, what stands out about Mary's faith?
5. Mary told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do. When talking to God about your needs, do you trust God to the point that whatever He tells you to do, you will do it, or do you find yourself more tempted to tell God what He needs to do?

*“We don't trust Jesus because what He chooses to do always fits my definition of good, we trust Jesus because no matter what He chooses to do we know that HE is good.” Pastor Jeff Maness*

6. Pastor Jeff mentioned that we don't often think about the endless miracles God does for us that we don't see. What are some miracles God does for us that we don't think about enough?

## Practice

1. What is one thing that you can take away from this message?
2. Share with the group a need that you have. It could be relational, financial, emotional, or health-related. As a group, go to the Lord with that need and

ask Him to show you how you can partner with Him in seeing a miracle take place.

**Side Note:** Sometimes, patience is the best thing for us to partner with the Lord in. Not every need has specific steps we can take to see that need fulfilled. Or, maybe we are already doing what we know we can do. Again, that is why sometimes the best way to partner with the Lord is by practicing patience in the Lord's timing, the Lord's planning, and the Lord's way. When we try to force God's hand in something because it's hard, hurts, or we just want some peace in life, it rarely turns out well. Instead, let's have the attitude of Mary, who had faith that Jesus could do something beyond anything she could ask or imagine and then got out of His way and waited for Him to work.