



In the Flesh – John 2

December 31 | Weekly Devotionals

Section 1: Introduction

As we come to John 2, we come to two of the most famous scenes in the entire New Testament: when Jesus turns water into wine at the wedding at Cana and when Jesus cleanses the temple.

In this passage, we encounter the transformation of water into wine, showing us the “sweet excess” of the Kingdom of God. This story serves as a powerful reminder of Jesus' desire to bring joy and abundance into our lives, even in the most unexpected moments. Through his actions, Jesus calls us to recognize the importance of inviting him into our everyday experiences, allowing him to infuse our lives with his grace. As we delve into John 2, we are reminded of the importance of faith, the manifestation of God's glory, and the abundant blessings that flow from a life centered on Christ.

Read all of John 2.

Section 2: Walk slowly through your passage

1. In your own way, paraphrase the events that take place and the lessons to learn from this chapter in John's gospel.
2. What did Jesus mean by “My time, or hour, has not yet come” (John 4:21-23, John 5:25, John 7:3-8, John 7:30, John 8:20, Matthew 26:17-18 & 45, John 17:1)?

3. What is the purpose of this miracle at Cana (see John 2:11)?
4. What event takes place in John 2:13-25? What does this reveal to you about who Jesus is? And his mission?
5. How does John the gospel writer clarify what Jesus' words in John 2:19 are about in John 2:21-22? What did the religious leaders think Jesus was talking about?

Section 3: Reflection questions

1. At some point, Mary realized there was a problem with the wine at the wedding party. In our lives today, how do you determine which of your problems are worthy of asking Jesus to intervene? Where do you need Jesus' intervention today? Go to him with anything that comes up.
2. In verse 5, what does Mary tell the servants to do? In what ways do you have a similar disposition of "simple obedience" to Jesus? In what ways is that lacking in your life?
3. How can you apply the principle of God's abundance to your own life, especially when faced with scarcity or challenges?
4. How does the reality of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection in this text resonate with or deepen your personal faith in Jesus as your Savior?

Section 4: Pray the Scriptures

Using John 2, write out a prayer in response to what you've read or use the prayer already constructed below to pray this passage.

[Sample prayer]

Heavenly Father,

I thank you for the lessons we find in John 2, where Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding in Cana. Like the master of the banquet, I stand in awe of your abundant blessings. And I acknowledge the glory of your son, Jesus.

Teach me obedience and faith, just as the servants showed by following Jesus' instructions. I invite him into the ordinary moments of my life, asking for his transformative presence to turn scarcity into abundance and sorrow into joy.

In his name, I pray. Amen.

Section 5: Memorize Scripture

Throughout this series, we want to be memorizing Scripture. Use the prompts below to help you get John 2 into your heart and mind.

1. Write down John 2 in your journal or on a notecard.
2. Memorize John 2:10-11. Use various techniques to memorize the passage, such as repeating it out loud, creating visual associations, or setting it to a melody or rhythm, take time to commit these verses to memory.
3. Regularly review the passage throughout the week. Recite it from memory and reflect on its meaning and significance.