

Message from God's Life-Giving Word

April 7, 2019

explore God – Jesus

...that I may **know** Him and the **power** of His resurrection and the **fellowship** of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.
Philippians 3:10

Is Jesus really God?

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that **whoever** believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16

- The tension of Faith vs. Belief:

* religious faith and belief are often divorced from reason and confused with _____

John's Thesis Statement:

Now Jesus **did** many other **signs** in the **presence** of the disciples, which are not written in this **book**; but **these** are written **so that** you may **believe** that Jesus is the **Christ**, the Son of God, and that by **believing** you may have **life** in His **name**. John 20:30-31

Notes on the Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1-12):

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

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: What is something you once believed without any evidence? Why did you believe it? How would you describe the difference between faith and belief? Today, we can only hear or read about the events and signs John describes in his Gospel. Should our inability to be eyewitnesses to Jesus affect the process of someone coming to faith? Why or why not?
2. Read John 2:1–12, where the John recounts the story of Jesus turning water into wine. How familiar is this story to you? Is there anything you just read that stands out as new information? What are some details that would lead a reader to believe this actually happened? Consider how would you have reacted if you were “one of the servants” at the wedding. Now consider the master of the banquet’s statement. How might this be a foreshadowing of the coming shift from the sacrificial system to Jesus being the ultimate sacrifice?
3. Describe some characteristics of Jesus which come to mind from the recounting of the Wedding Feast at Cana? Does looking at this as a “sign” instead of a “miracle” change anything about your view of Jesus? How might it shape your view of all Jesus’ miracles? Pray about it. **REMEMBER:** Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.