



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2022



Take your Pulse

What good book have you not been able to put down this summer?

What is something you have not yet been able to do this summer?

Today's Reading

John Chapter 2

The author of John's gospel does not write about miracles, he writes about signs. The sign may be a miracle, such as the changing of water to wine. But not all signs are literal in the moment signs. In the story of Jesus cleansing the temple he is asked for a sign, and he refers to the sign of his death and resurrection, calling his own body a temple. Naturally the Jewish authorities were confused. And his disciples would not understand this sign until after Jesus was raised. These signs are meant to point us to something that is coming into the world. Jesus is the ultimate sign that God's Kingdom is not only coming into the world, but in fact is here. Sometimes we will get a close up miracle sign, when our water is turned to wine. Sometimes the sign is more of a mystery, something we only understand later.



Start the Thinking

The Gospel writer uses the expression "The Jews" many times. This expression is a reference to Jewish leaders, like Pharisees and scribes, and others in authority. John uses the expression as a catch all phrase for those who should know and believe but don't. How do you suppose this expression "the Jews" has been used to instigate hate against an entire ethnicity?



Conversing with God

Light of the World, you show us signs of your presence among us, and often times we miss the sign because we are more invested in the temporary miraculous outcome than we are in the long lasting reality of your Kingdom. Open our hearts to believe in you, not just for the sake of signs, but for the everlasting value of living in your Kingdom. In your holy name we pray. Amen



Be blessed

Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ, our Savior, is alive! The grave could not hold him. Christ is alive! There is joy this morning! Go into the world with joy. Tell the world Christ lives. Tell the world of God's love. Go, my sisters and brothers, go without fear; go without shame; go without apology. Go in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.