**Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana.
John 2:1-12**

**What happened . . .**

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; 2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." 6 Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." So they filled them up to the brim. 8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it to him. 9 When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew ), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, 10 and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." 11 This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him. 12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He and His mother and His brothers and His disciples; and they stayed there a few days.

**What’s going on . . .**

The Wedding in Cana was Jesus’ debut, as it were, as Messiah. As one might expect, it was a little different from what became “normal” for Jesus’ ministry. He wasn’t caught off guard but his family and followers were. At this point, Jesus and his disciples hadn’t made any enemies, so they were invited to a popular social event, the wedding of a family who most likely were friends of Mary, Jesus’ mother.

Mary knew of Jesus’s miraculous capabilities, which is not to say that she understood them. Accordingly, “when they wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." Jesus rebuked his mother for her frivolous thinking but honored her by fulfilling her wish. She must have learned her lesson for we do not see her interfering with Jesus’ ministry going forward.

Turning water into wine was an atypical miracle for Jesus, which was probably best, given it was the introduction to his supernatural ministry. Jesus’ miracles usually met needs, sometimes desperate needs, of the moment. In this case, wine was more of a want than a need. Yet, it served a gracious purpose, the celebration of marriage, a God-ordained institution, and perhaps a gift for the couple for months to come. Although, as God, Jesus could create *de novo* (out of nothing), he chose to change something that already existed, water. He thereby demonstrated his control over creation even as he did when he quieted the storm on the Sea of Galilea.

“Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the waterpots with water.’ So, they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, ‘Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.’ So, they took it to him. When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine and did not know where it came from. . . . He told the bridegroom, ‘you have kept the good wine until now.’” Notably, after the waterpots were filled to the brim, there was no room for sleight of hand such as adding coloring or flavoring. Moreover, the taste was not artificial but better than the best wine ever. It was perfect!

“This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.”