

# AFTER CHURCH DEVO

BY REBUILD

## Topic: Joy in the Ordinary

### Opening Prayer:

Father, Your Word says, “Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths” (Psalm 25:4). Open our hearts to see Your glory even in the common and everyday moments of our lives. May our time in Your Word deepen our joy and trust in You. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

### Read: John 2:1-11

How often do we look for joy in the spectacular, overlooking the ordinary moments of life? The story of Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana reveals something profound about the kingdom of God: He transforms the ordinary into extraordinary, showing His glory in the midst of daily life.

In first-century Jewish culture, weddings were grand social events lasting days, where hospitality was paramount. Running out of wine was a major faux pas, bringing embarrassment to the host. When Mary brought the need to Jesus, His response, “My hour has not yet come” (John 2:4), reminds us that His actions always pointed to a greater purpose. Yet, even in this, He did not dismiss the immediate need.

Jesus instructed the servants to fill six stone water jars, used for ceremonial washing, with water. These jars, each holding 20 to 30 gallons, were symbols of purification under the Old Covenant. By turning their contents into wine, Jesus not only met the practical need but also foreshadowed the New Covenant—a transformation of the old into something full of life and joy.

The Greek word for sign in verse 11 (*semeion*) emphasizes that this miracle was not just about the wine. It revealed Jesus’ divine authority and His mission to bring ultimate joy and fulfillment. Yet, notice where the miracle occurred—not in the temple, but at a wedding, an ordinary, festive gathering.

This story reminds us that Jesus does not reserve His work for grand stages or life's momentous occasions. He is present in our day-to-day lives, turning the mundane into something meaningful when we invite Him in. Our challenge is to trust that He is at work, even when we cannot see the transformation immediately.

### **Conclusion:**

Jesus' first miracle shows us that joy in Him isn't limited to the extraordinary. He is Emmanuel, "God with us," even in the ordinary rhythms of life. Like the servants who obeyed His instructions, we are called to faithfulness, trusting that our everyday acts of obedience can become the vessels for His extraordinary grace.

### **Discussion Questions:**

#### **For Students:**

1. How does Jesus' miracle at the wedding encourage you to trust Him with your everyday struggles?
2. What are some areas in your life where you feel God's presence might be missing?
3. How can you share the joy of Jesus with your friends in simple ways?

#### **For Parents:**

1. How can this passage challenge you to see Jesus' work in your family's daily life?
2. In what ways can you model faith in God's provision for your children?
3. How can you invite Jesus into your household's "ordinary" moments?

#### **For Professionals:**

1. What does this story teach about trusting Jesus with your work and responsibilities?
2. How can you reflect Jesus' joy in your workplace?
3. In what ways do you see God transforming the "ordinary" aspects of your career or life?

**This week, take one ordinary task—whether at school, home, or work—and commit it to Jesus in prayer, asking Him to use it for His glory. Then watch for His hand in the details.**