SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

John

Chapter 2

The Good Wine and the True Temple

MEMORY VERSE · JOHN 2:11

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

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in John 2

John 2 takes us from a village wedding to the temple in Jerusalem. This week, bring Jesus what has run out in your life, do whatever He says, and let Him clear out anything in His house that does not belong — He knows what is in you, and He still keeps the good wine for later.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the John study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

They Have No Wine

READ · JOHN 2:1–5

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who was at the wedding (vv. 1–2)? What did Mary tell Jesus, what did He answer, and what did she then tell the servants (vv. 3–5)?

REFLECT

Mary simply told Jesus, "They have no wine" (v. 3). What has run out in your life right now — patience, money, hope, a relationship — and have you told Him plainly, or tried to tell Him how to fix it?

REFLECT

"Whatever He says to you, do it" (v. 5). What is one thing Jesus has already made clear to you that you have been putting off?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down the one thing that has run out. Bring it to Jesus in one plain sentence, and leave the how and the when to Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 2:11)

DAY 2 OF 5

Filled to the Brim

READ · JOHN 2:6–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What were the six stone waterpots used for, and how much did each hold (v. 6)? What did the servants do, and what did the headwaiter say to the bridegroom (vv. 7–10)?

REFLECT

The servants "filled them up to the brim" (v. 7) without knowing what Jesus would do. Where are you obeying Jesus halfway, and what would it look like to fill it to the brim?

REFLECT

"Every man serves the good wine first … but you have kept the good wine until now" (v. 10). Where has sin served you its best first and its worst last — and where have you seen Jesus give better later?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do today, all the way, the thing Jesus has made clear that you have been putting off (Day 1). Thank Him that the best is not behind you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 2:11)

DAY 3 OF 5

Zeal for His House

READ · JOHN 2:13–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Jesus find in the temple (v. 14)? List everything He did in verse 15, and what He said in verse 16. What did the disciples remember (v. 17)?

REFLECT

Jesus took time to make a whip of cords (v. 15) — this was not a temper tantrum. What makes you angry, and how much of it is about God's honor and how much is about your own pride?

REFLECT

Paul says your body is a temple of God (1 Corinthians 3:16). What "tables" have been set up in your life that turn His house "into a place of business" (v. 16)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one table that needs to come down. Ask Jesus to overturn it, and take one concrete step today to remove it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 2:11)

DAY 4 OF 5

Destroy This Temple

READ · JOHN 2:18–22

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the Jews ask for (v. 18)? What did Jesus answer (v. 19), how did they misunderstand it (v. 20), and what was He really talking about (v. 21)?

REFLECT

"What sign do You show us?" (v. 18). When have you demanded that God prove Himself before you would trust Him, and how does His resurrection answer that demand?

REFLECT

The disciples did not understand until "He was raised from the dead" (v. 22). What is something God did in your life that only made sense later, looking back?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank Jesus out loud that His body was destroyed and raised in three days. Tell one person today that He is alive.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 2:11)

DAY 5 OF 5

He Knew What Was in Man

READ · JOHN 2:23–25

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Why did many believe in His name (v. 23)? What did Jesus do — or not do — in response, and what reason does John give (vv. 24–25)?

REFLECT

Many believed because they saw signs, but Jesus "was not entrusting Himself to them" (v. 24). Is your faith built on what Jesus does for you, or on who He is?

REFLECT

"He Himself knew what was in man" (v. 25). How does it feel to know Jesus sees everything in you — and that He came to you anyway?

RESPOND — TODAY

Get alone and tell Jesus honestly what is in you today — the good and the ugly. Then read verse 25 and thank Him that He already knew, and still came.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 2:11)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

The first sign happened at a family celebration, not in a synagogue (vv. 1–11). What does it tell you about Jesus that He cared about a family's embarrassment at a party?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Jesus' first public act in Jerusalem was to clear the court where the nations came to pray (vv. 14–16). What gets in the way of outsiders meeting God in our church or our group, and what could we clear away?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

This week, where did you see the difference between excitement about Jesus and trusting Him (vv. 23–25)? How can this group help each other move from the first to the second?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You turned water into the best wine and raised the temple of Your body, and You know what is in me, so today I ask You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · JOHN 2:11

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