SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

GROUP WORKSHEET · OBSERVE · INTERPRET · APPLY

John 2

The Good Wine and the True Temple

NAME _____ DATE _____

KEY VERSE · JOHN 2:11 · NASB

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

Two scenes: a wedding in Galilee and a whip in Jerusalem. In both, something old is filled and then replaced by Jesus Himself.

BEFORE YOU ANSWER

1. Read John 2 straight through, then a second time slowly with a pen.
2. Mark what you see: God · commands · repeated words · sin / warnings · promises · time / place.
3. Answer from the text first. Write the verse number beside every answer.

COUNT THE KEY WORDS

Find each word in John 2. Tally it and note the verses. What does John keep coming back to?

WORD	HOW MANY?	VERSES
wine		
water		
temple		
sign / signs		
believed		
disciples		

JOHN 2:1–5 The Need

1 OBSERVE

What is the problem at the wedding, who brings it to Jesus, and exactly what does she say (2:3)?

2 INTERPRET

Jesus says "My hour has not yet come" (2:4). Trace "hour" in 7:30, 8:20, 12:23 and 17:1. What hour does He mean?

3 APPLY

Mary tells the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it" (2:5). What has Jesus clearly told you to do that you are waiting to understand before you obey?

JOHN 2:6–12 The Sign

4 OBSERVE

Describe the waterpots: how many, what they were for, how large, and how full the servants filled them (2:6–7).

5 OBSERVE

What does the headwaiter say (2:10)? What three things does verse 11 say about this sign?

6 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Guzik: "The wine was better than the water; and the New Covenant is better than the Old Covenant." Why does it matter that these were purification jars? Compare Exodus 7:20.

7 APPLY

The world serves its best first and the poorer wine later (2:10). Where have you seen that pattern in your own life, and what does Cana promise instead?

JOHN 2:13–17 The Cleansing

8 OBSERVE

What did Jesus find in the temple, and what did He do about it (2:14–16)?

9 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Was Jesus out of control? Guzik: "He did not do it in a flash of anger. He carefully took the time to make a whip of cords." Henry: "Discretion must always guide and govern our zeal." What separates His anger from most of ours?

10 APPLY

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16. What "tables" have you set up in God's temple that He would overturn?

JOHN 2:18–22 The Sign Demanded

11 OBSERVE

What do the Jews ask for, what does Jesus answer, and how do they misunderstand Him (2:18–20)?

12 INTERPRET

What temple did He mean (2:21)? When did the disciples finally understand (2:22)? What does that make the greatest sign?

JOHN 2:23–25 The Hearts

13 OBSERVE

Many “believed in His name” (2:23). What was their belief based on, and how did Jesus respond (2:24)?

14 INTERPRET

Guzik calls this “thin, superficial belief.” What is the difference between faith that stops at the sign and faith that reaches the Person? How does 2:25 set up chapter 3?

15 APPLY

Jesus knows what is in you and came anyway. What would it look like to stop trying to impress Him and come honestly?

WORD STUDY The Greek behind the English

16 WORD *sēmeion* · G4592 · sign

John calls the miracles "signs" (2:11). A sign points away from itself. According to 20:30–31, where are the signs meant to lead you?

17 WORD *naos* · G3485 · sanctuary, the dwelling place of God

In 2:14–15 John uses *hieron*, the temple courts. In 2:19–21 he switches to *naos*. Why does that word fit Jesus' body?

PUT IT TOGETHER The chapter as a whole

The theme. In one or two sentences of your own, what is John 2 about?

Jesus. What does this chapter show you about who Jesus is that you want to remember?

This week. What one thing will you do because of this chapter, and which brother will you tell?

Around the table. Prayer requests and what the other men saw that you missed.