



THE SABBATH CIRCLES HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Unit Theme: Illumination of mind and heart

Lesson connected to Sunday, March 22, 2020

Today's Scripture: John 2:1-11

Key Verse: "And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.'" John 2:4

Contexts of the Scripture:

- As we have discovered in previous lessons, John is the most recent of the four Gospels having been written at the end of the first century CE. It was written within a specific early Christian community and reflects some of the unique theological perspectives of that particular group of followers.
- This particular story comes at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry in John, shortly after his baptism and his calling of the first disciples. It is found only in the book of John and no where else in the other three Gospels.
- This story recounts the first of Jesus' miracles, at least according to John. It also provides some insight into his relationship with his mother, and shows Jesus in a typical social setting for his culture.

Questions to go deeper:

- Who attended this wedding in Cana with Jesus? What happened that caused Jesus' mother to ask him a question?
- How did Jesus respond to his mother's question? Note that he said one thing and did another. Why do you think this was the case?
- What did Jesus mean when he said, "my hour has not yet come?" Why do you think he then decided to do as his mother asked?
- Turning water into wine at a wedding seems like an odd choice for a first miracle, but is it? Why might it not be?
- How is Jesus' question, "... what concern is that to you and to me?" a universal question that transcends this particular story? How is it particularly relevant to what's happening in our society today as the entire world responds to the Covid-19 epidemic?

Activity possibilities:

- **Family activities:**

- Where would this fall on the bible timeline? Hint: Check out the context info above!
 - What would be an example of something that would not be your concern to worry about, but you might think about responding to?
 - When have you decided to walk away from a situation where you might have offered some assistance just because you “didn’t want to get involved?” Looking back on that moment, do you think you did the right thing? Why or why not?
 - Make a list of all the changes in your life as a family in response to the Covid-19 epidemic. Which ones illustrate your concern for someone other than yourself? Which ones do you think you might hold on to after this whole situation is resolved and we can go back to “life as it was before?”
 - Gather together with a large piece of white poster board, some colored markers, stickers and glitter. Work together as a family to create a “graffiti board” to illustrate what your “new normal” as a family might look like after Covid-19. Put it someplace where everyone will see it every day.
- **Younger children activities:**
 - Check out this link to some fun craft ideas for exploring the Wedding at Cana story with little ones: https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1366&bih=657&ei=7ZhzXqLAOIKOggePppbQDw&q=craft+projects+for+the+wedding+in+cana&oq=craft+projects+for+the+wedding+in+cana&gs_l=img.3...76.1896..2101...0.0..1.162.1190.10j3.....0....1..gws-wiz-img.fHOtLbflM.JY&ved=oahUKEwji6pGC9qboAhUCh-AKHQ-TBfoQ4dUDCAY&uact=5
 - **Older children and youth activities:**
 - Work through the other activities explained above.
 - Check out this Youtube.com video about this story: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_Cbk4i37HM

How does it present the story? How is the relationship between Jesus and his mother presented? Does the miracle occur as you had imagined? How would you have done this differently?

Truth is always happy to answer your questions
 for more information on anything in the Bible
 Catch up with her through the church or
 Bookstore and Café any Thursday afternoon