

# THE WEDDING AT CANA

John 2:1-11

**KIDS**  
**3RD-6TH**

NL

**Key Verse:**

“Everyone serves the good wine first... But you have kept the good wine until now.”

John 2:10

**The Point:**

Jesus’ glory is revealed through a miracle.

**Making Connections:**

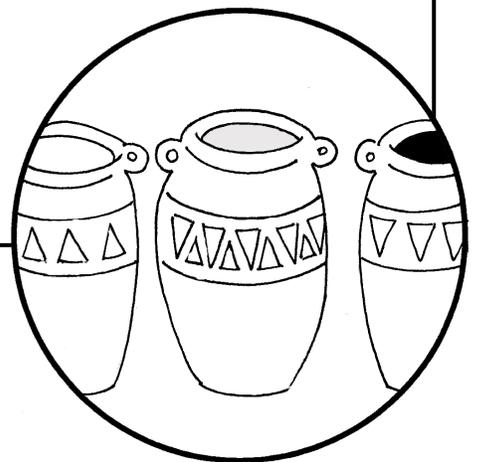
Encountering the Messiah

**Bible Nuts & Bolts:**

Weddings

**Spiritual Practice:**

Prayer



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# BACKGROUND

## **Making Connections**

This week, we encounter the Messiah through the first miracle story described in the Gospel of John. This miracle shows us something important about Jesus' ministry on earth. Among other things, Jesus' ministry would support and sustain community, demonstrate God's abundant provision, and foreshadow the great feast when we will all be welcomed into God's house.

## **Story Summary:**

### ***The Wedding at Cana***

Jesus, his mother, and his disciples attended a wedding in Cana of Galilee. When the wine ran out before the seven-day party was over, Jesus' mother called for him to help. Jesus told some servants to fill six large stone jars with water and then take some to the chief steward to taste. When they gave some of the liquid to the chief steward, he discovered it had become wine and was impressed that the hosts had saved their best wine for the end of the party. This was the first of the signs in the Gospel of John that Jesus did to reveal God's glory.

This miracle at the wedding in Cana reminds us that community celebrations are so important that Jesus honors this one by providing this miracle. Community celebrations help us understand ourselves as one people, which is essential if we are going to do God's work in the world.

We discover and express our gifts when we are in a community. It would not have mattered how wonderful Jesus' wine was if there was nobody to taste it. We only really understand the power of our gifts when there are those around us who can receive those gifts and respond to them. It takes courage and faith to offer our best gifts to others. In

the same way, we best understand the power of God's gifts when we are around others who receive and respond to them as well.

## **The Point**

**Jesus' glory is revealed through a miracle.** The wine Jesus provides is of superior quality. In the story, the steward remarks that Jesus' wine is much better than that which was served earlier. Although those things that we can do by ourselves might be pretty good (like the early wine), God's blessings are beyond what we can do or even imagine. When Jesus shows up at the party, God will transform our gifts into something really amazing.

## **Bible Nuts & Bolts:**

### ***Weddings***

Weddings were primarily a legal ceremony. There is little-to-no indication in the biblical texts that weddings were accompanied by a religious ceremony as they often are today. Other wedding traditions of Jesus' era included a dowry provided by the groom's family, a view that the engagement period was almost as legally binding as the wedding itself, and a multi-day celebration following the wedding ceremony. Thus, it would have been shameful to run out of wine early in the celebration.

## **Spiritual Practice: Prayer**

Different prayers serve different purposes. Sometimes we cry out to God for help. Sometimes we pray on our own behalf or on that of others. And sometimes we simply need to praise God and celebrate God's greatness!



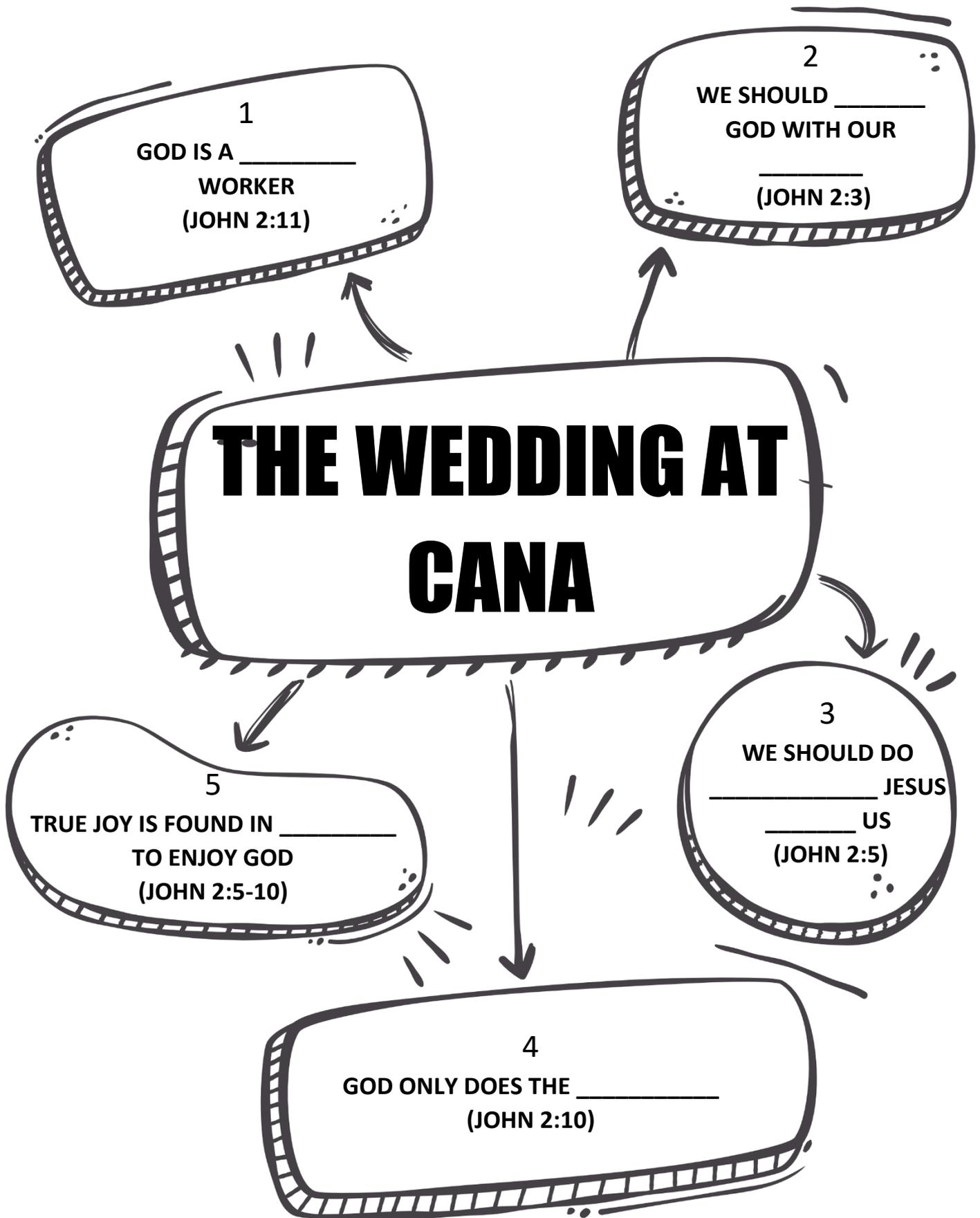
# WORDSEARCH

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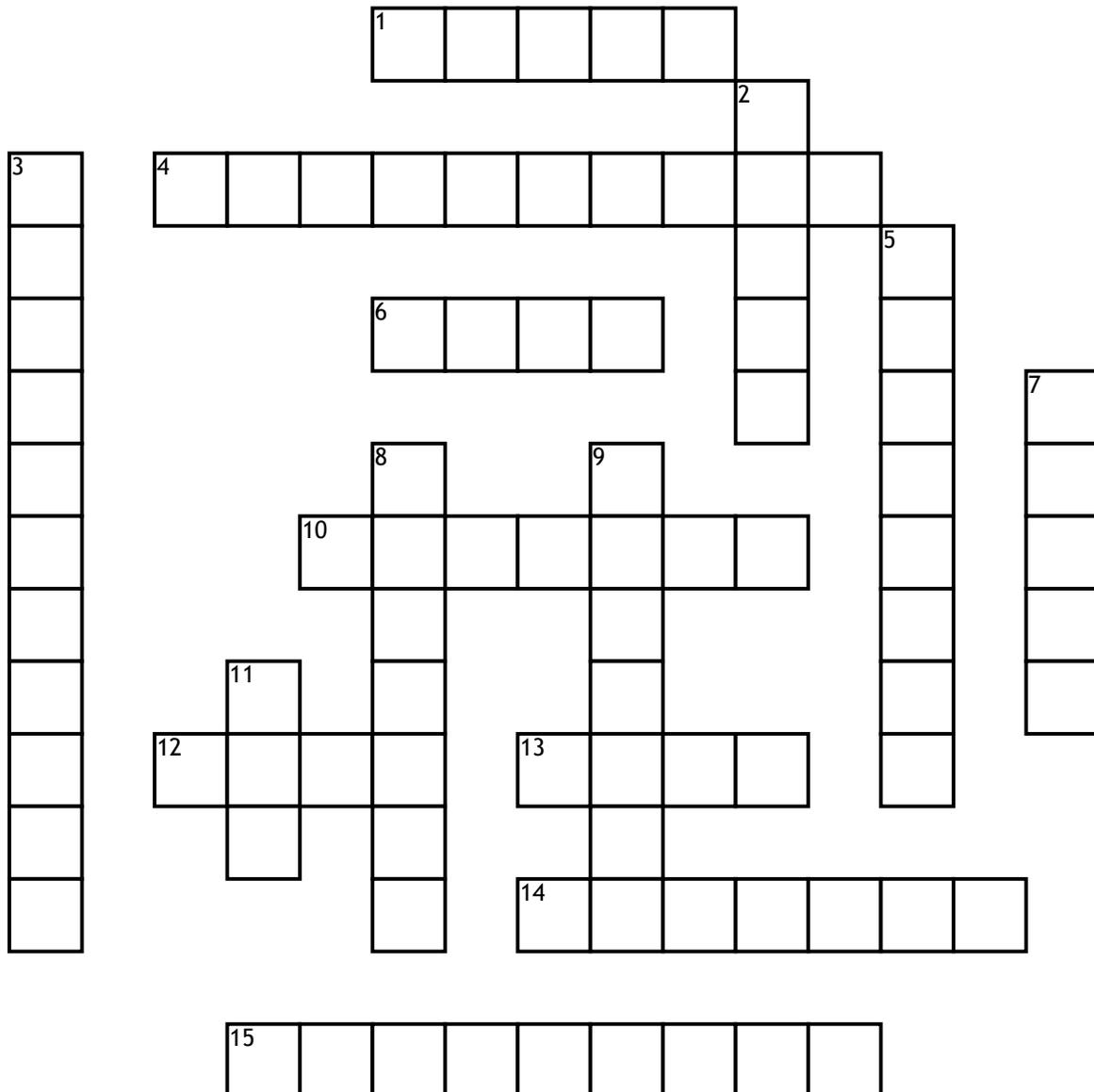
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CANA  
WINE  
WATER  
MIRACLE  
FEAST  
SERVANTS  
BANQUET  
BEST  
GALILEE



# STUDY NOTES MIND MAP



# Water Into Wine



**Across**

- 1. This was Jesus's \_\_\_\_\_ miracle.
- 4. This event happened after the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. Miracles performed simply by God's \_\_\_\_\_?
- 10. What is this event
- 12. What was the good stuff?

- 13. What city did this miracle take place?
- 14. Who did Jesus use in this miracle?
- 15. \_\_\_\_\_ precedes the miracle.

**Down**

- 2. What did Jesus call His mother?
- 3. Wine is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- 5. Water is a symbol of the old \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7. What was required in this miracles?
- 8. Woman equals \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9. Running out of wine is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11. How many jars did they use?

# WRITE YOUR OWN STORY



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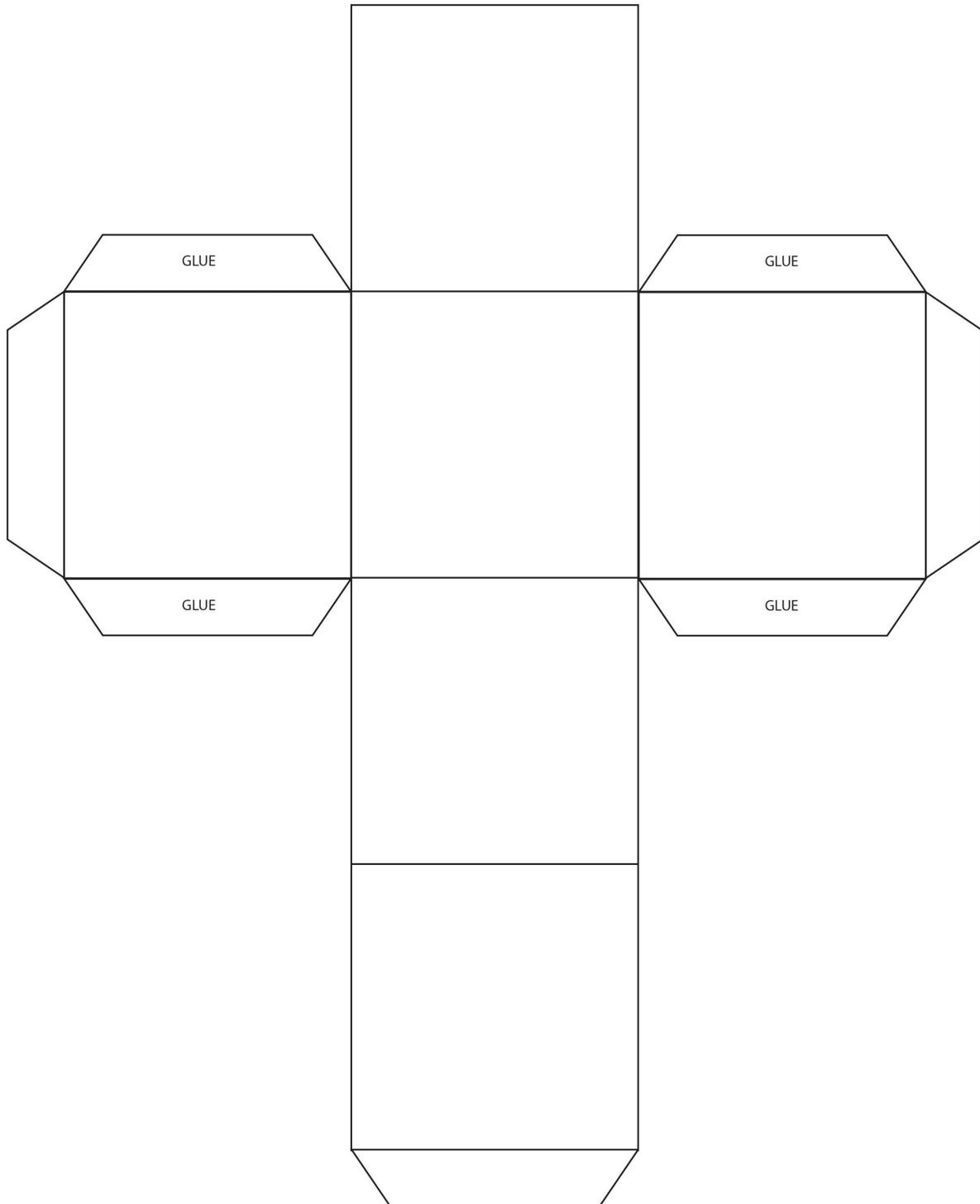


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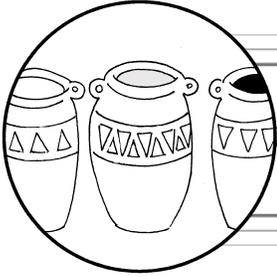
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# SURPRISE GIFT

*Giftedness comes out in community.*



1. Cut around outside edges.
2. Fold on solid lines.
3. Use glue or tape on the tabs to secure your cube.



# THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS  
3RD-6TH**

**NL**

**Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**  
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

**Lesson #4-18**  
John 2:1-11

## LAST WEEK

John the Baptist confirmed that he is not the light when he says that he is neither the Messiah nor Elijah nor a prophet (John 1:19-34). Jesus' first disciples followed him (John 1:35-51).

## THIS WEEK

Jesus' public ministry begins with a miracle at a wedding in Cana. When the wine runs out, Jesus transforms water into wine, providing more than enough for the needs of the feast (John 2:1-11).

## THE POINT

Jesus' glory is revealed through a miracle.

## BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

### *Weddings*

Weddings in Jesus' time were primarily a legal ceremony. There is little indication in the Bible that weddings were accompanied by a religious ceremony as they often are today. Other wedding traditions of Jesus' era included a dowry provided by the groom's family, a view that the engagement period was almost as legally binding as the wedding itself, and a multi-day celebration following the wedding ceremony. Thus, it would have been shameful to run out of wine early in the celebration.

## STORY SUMMARY

### **The Wedding at Cana**

Jesus, his mother, and his disciples attended a wedding in Cana of Galilee. When the wine ran out before the seven-day party was over, Jesus' mother called for him to help. Jesus told some servants to fill six large stone jars with water and then take some to the chief steward to taste. When they gave some of the liquid to the chief steward, he discovered it had become wine and was impressed that the hosts had saved their best wine for the end of the party. This was the first of the signs in the Gospel of John that Jesus did to reveal God's glory.

## PRACTICE: PRAYER

Different prayers serve different purposes. Sometimes we simply need to praise God and celebrate God's greatness! Create a praise parade around your home, and take turns calling out the things for which you give praise.

## NEXT WEEK

Jesus chases the moneychangers out of the temple and makes a prophecy about his own resurrection (John 2:13-25).

### *Family Discussions*

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### *Family Devotions*

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

#### **Sunday—Read John 2:1-11**

At a wedding in Cana, Jesus makes water into the best wine.. Plan a party together. Prepare some favorite foods and give small gifts to each other.

#### **Monday—Read Luke 14:7-11**

A parable about weddings. When you eat a meal together, sit at different places than usual. How does it feel?

#### **Tuesday—Read Luke 14:15-24**

A second parable about weddings. Sometimes we make excuses about not going to church. What are some of your excuses? How can you get past the excuses and worship together?

#### **Wednesday—Read Psalm 104:10-16**

The Lord gives food and drink to all creation. Drink glasses of water together and talk about the things in creation for which you are the most grateful.

#### **Thursday—Read Revelation 19:1-10**

The eternal wedding feast. Eat a feast together. At the beginning and the end of the meal, say “Praise our God, all you God’s servants, and all who fear God, small and great.”

#### **Friday—Read Isaiah 25:6-9**

The Feast of the Lord. Share one thing that makes you sad. Pass around a tissue. Pray for the person holding the tissue and their sorrow, then pass the tissue to the next person and pray for them.

#### **Saturday—Read Psalm 23:1-6**

A psalm with overflowing wine. This is a well-known psalm. What image from it speaks to you? Why?