



"Overflowing Empty" with Joel McQueen

John 2:1-11

BACKGROUND ON JOHN'S GOSPEL

The Gospel of John is 92% different than the other three Gospels.

John does not write chronologically, but rather he writes specific scenes that he was an eyewitness to that convinced him that Jesus was God in the flesh, the creator of all things, the Jewish Messiah, and the Lamb of God who would die for the sins of the world. (See John 1:1-33).

John is called "the Evangelist" because he writes with the stated purpose of convincing people that Jesus is the Messiah, so that they would believe and receive eternal life. (See John 20:30-31).

John organizes his message around miracles that Jesus did that were "signs" revealing who He really is. These signs culminate in the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus, which definitively proved to John that Jesus was exactly who He claimed to be ... the Son God, born to die in order to rise and defeat death and save those who believe in Him. (See John 20:8-9).

AN INTRODUCTION

Subject Question: "When the wine runs out, what then?"

Asked another way: "When you hit empty ... when your need exceeds your ability, where are you going to turn?"

When the cancer is back and there's nothing they can do.

When the money's gone and the notice is on the door.

When you've had that fight with your spouse again, and you're just done.

When you're stuck in that addiction and see no way out.

When the markets crash, the Russians invade, the political tides turn, when _____.

THE TEXT – JOHN 2:1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴ "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so,⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside¹⁰ and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

THE BIG IDEA

Empty = The Perfect Position for Jesus' to display His glory.

This sign is all about who Jesus is! Jesus is the Messiah who will abundantly fill Israel's empty vineyards, restore their blessing, and establish them forever in their land. (See Amos 9:13-15).

Jesus is the only One who can fill our empty lives.

He does this when we come to a place of surrender where we say, "Jesus, I'm empty, I'll do whatever you say!"

WHAT IT'S NOT SAYING

This doesn't mean that God will give us everything we want, in our timing – no one can manipulate Jesus – and we often want the wrong things (see James 4:3-4)

This doesn't mean we won't suffer or that we can have a Christian version of the American dream, in fact the Scriptures repeatedly tell Christians that they will suffer, and that the world will hate them for following Christ. (See John 15:18-19, 16:2, 2 Tim 3:1, 12-13; 1 Peter 4:12-13).

WHAT IT IS SAYING

Jesus is exactly Who you need. Trust Him to fill your life – He is eternal life itself and in believing in Him, you will have abundant life. (John 10:10).

Jesus still provides, still protects, still guides, still heals, still sets people free, still saves.

Jesus is alive and He is here! Here with you right now, today. He is here and at work at BCC. Don't wait to come to Him to be filled. Come to Him today.

THE CHALLENGE

Stop trying to fill your life with empty things.

Money

Social media/approval of others

Self help

Entertainment

Substances and sex

Control

Ask the Holy Spirit to fill your life – listen and do whatever He tells you! (John 14:15-17; Rom 15:13).

APPLICATION

Take 15 minutes each day this week – read a chapter of John. Be silent with the remaining time and ask Jesus to reveal who He is to you. Listen to God and do whatever He tells you!

