

Transformation

Script - James 1:2-8

A. The wedding feast in Cana (Jn. 2"1-11)

1. The historical setting and main points of the story.
 - a. This was Jesus' 1st miracle and he is relatively unknown up until then.
 - b. He is known as the carpenter of Nazareth (Mk. 6:3), not as the miracle worker or healer.
 - c. It is obvious that Jesus did not plan on doing his first miracle at the wedding.
2. What changed?
 - a. John has announced him as "the lamb of God".
 - b. He was baptized by John. What did that mean? From all appearances he was moved by the preaching of John, just like the others were that were baptized.
 - b. His baptism was a little different because John hesitated to baptize him and also the voice from heaven sounded and the dove appeared.
 - c. This was after he was tempted in the wilderness and fasted for 40 days, so he is somewhat emaciated.
 - d. He has disciples following him now.
3. What happened at the wedding?
 - a. Mary makes a request of Jesus that he was not planning for. Was the timing not what he expected or maybe the event was not where he thought it would start? There is definitely an element of surprise involved.
 - b. He grants her request. Why? Because she exercises faith in him?
4. What did Mary base her faith upon? The scriptures or her personal knowledge of God?
 - a. The angel Gabriel appearing to her to announce the coming one
 - b. The fulfillment of His birth place, the magi from the east, the shepherds account of the angels
 - c. The prophecies of Simeon at the temple (Lk. 2:25).
 - d. The words of Anna at His dedication (Lk. 2:36).
 - e. The time when Jesus was at the temple, when He claimed God as His father (Lk. 2:49).
 - f. The birth of John the Baptist...the forerunner of the Messiah (Lk. 1).
 - g. She has probably heard the story of John's announcement and Jesus' baptism at the Jordan.
5. What about others attending the wedding?
 - a. The attendants did not have to believe in Jesus to do what they were asked to do. They had to do what Mary said. Because of Mary's influence they followed what Jesus asked them to do. Whatever he says do it.
 - b. Notice when the water was turned into wine. It was only after they acted in faith and filled the water pots and then took some out to give to the master of the feast. How important is it for us to act upon what God says? The ten lepers were cleansed as they went. The waters of the Jordan parted only after the priests put their feet touched the water.