John Series I
Jesus Can Turn Your Water Into Wine
January 9, 2014

I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Prepare a couple of easy, fun and dynamic icebreaker games to get your group warmed up. Help your cell members to put aside their busy & stressful life. Prepare their minds to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prepare a few songs that help to bring your members to come to the throne of God. As you worship, help your members to encounter with God and experience God’s presence. During this time, the cell leader should also lead the group to pray aloud for the following prayer items:

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION: ____________, and their needs are: ________________
(Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:
   - 1/24 Intern Cell Leader Training
   - 1/25-2/22 Equipping Class
   - 1/31 All Church Men’s Conference

C. New comer: ________________ Identify new comers before cell meeting.
   Sick members, friends or relatives: ________________ Please also discuss how you may show your cares to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God’s word, the group may discuss how you may apply it in everyday life.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday’s sermon: (Try and listen to the sermon on-line once again.)
   1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? What did God talk to you through the message?
   2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Discussion Topic: Jesus Can Turn Your Water Into Wine

   Scriptures: John 2:1-11
   Memorizing Verse: His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever He tells you.”

   Jesus and his disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana in Galilee. Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding to reveal the glory of being the son of God. A Jewish wedding celebration usually lasts 7 days. The food and wine are offered to the guests and the groom’s family or relatives for them to rejoice, celebrate and have good time. During the feast, it would be a disappointment if the wine was out and the celebration had to come to a stop ahead of time. The good thing is: Jesus, the son of God, was among them. He provided excellent wine to the bridegroom’s guests sufficiently so that everyone may abundantly enjoy the grace of the Lord.

1. The wine was all gone at Cana Wedding (1-3):
   A) Jesus attended the wedding in person (1-2): The Lord Jesus became flesh and made his dwelling among us. He did not detach himself from us, but on the contrary, he was just like anyone of us living an ordinary life.
   B) Time of Embarrassments (3): All the wine was gone! How embarrassing it must have been for the bridegroom! In order for the celebration to not be interrupted, Mary decided to mention this to Jesus. For she knew that He is the son of God (Luke 1: 35), and he will surely have a solution to resolve the embarrassment. (Obviously, Mary is a relative of the bridegroom’s family, otherwise; she would not have been told of the situation.)

2. Jesus turned water into the best wine (4-10):
   A) Mary told the servants to do as Jesus said (4-5):

      1) Jesus replied to Mary as God (4): 1. “Woman”: Jewish people often call their mother “woman.” 2. “Why do you involve me?” As Jesus was ministering as God, it was not up to his biological mother to get him involved in work for her sake. 3. “My time has not yet come”: It was not time to
reveal Jesus as God yet. If he was revealed untimely, Jesus may have to face interference from enemies.

2) **Jesus’ mother told the servants to do as Jesus said (5):** Being Jesus’ mom, Mary understood exactly what Jesus meant. Jesus used to listen to his parents as a son, but then he started his ministry as the son of God. People had to follow what he said. That’s why Mary told the servants to do as Jesus said.

B) **The servants totally followed what Jesus had to say (6-8):** Jesus’ miracle requires the men to totally follow his instructions. 1) Jesus used the existing containers (6): there were 6 stone water jars outside by the Jews for ceremonial washing. Each stone jar contains approximately 20 – 30 gallons of water. Jesus used these water jars to embody his grace. 2) No one ever doubted. They closely followed what Jesus told them to do: Jesus told them to fill the 6 big stone water jars with water and then draw the water out. They did what they were told to do. 3) The servants took a risk to draw some water out and to be tasted by the banquet master. Even though they knew the water may have already been turned into wine, they were still risking their own careers for doing that.

C) **The banquet master said, “You have saved the best till now.” (9-10):** 1) Jesus turned the water into wine without letting the banquet master or the bridegroom know. The banquet master must have been a pretty good wine taster, as he tasted the excellent quality of wine, he couldn’t help but ask why they didn’t bring up the best wine to start with. So he decided to check with the bridegroom. 2) The abundant grace of Jesus: Think about how much wine there is for 6 jars of best wine, it is grace on top of grace which allows all the invited guests to taste the grace of the Lord.

3. **The First Miracle Shows the Glory of Jesus being son of God (11):** Many miracles and wonders recorded in the Old Testament were to manifest the glory of God. This first miracle that Jesus performed was to exactly show the glory of God. For the disciples, they only heard of John the Baptist before. The way they followed Jesus was like the disciples following a rabbi. They know of Jesus intellectually, but then they witnessed what Jesus had done. It was the real experience of the disciples getting to know Jesus personally, that not only elevated their faith, but proved to be a powerful testimony about Jesus.

**Discussion: (Please pick the questions that are suitable for your cell group’s needs.)**

1. Share the incident that you feel most embarrassing.
2. Why would Jesus’ mother tell him that the wine was all gone?
3. How did Mary instruct the servant? Why would she say that?
4. How did the servants reply Mary? If you were one of the servants, how would you do? What would you think?
5. What is the comment from the banquet master to the wine turned from water? How do you recognize from his comment that Jesus can totally resolve our issues and satisfy our needs?

**Prayer:**

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for giving us your one and only son, Jesus. You sent him to be among us, so that we may see his glory and to know you better. O Lord, I desire to be a vessel of miracle for you. I am willing to follow your Word wholeheartedly. I long to experience your wonderful deeds in my daily life. Make our lives testimonies to your glory so that when people see us, they will come to you with joy. Thank you, Lord. We pray in Jesus’s name. AMEN!

**IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.**

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.