



## For further thought and discussion:

### Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Think back over the past year; what's the best party you attended? What made it so joyful/celebratory?

### Going Deeper

3. Why would Jesus begin his ministry by performing this miracle (v. 11)? What is unique about this miracle (relative to many of Jesus' other miracles)?
4. What are we to make of Jesus' interaction with his mom in verses 3-5? Why does he refer to her as, "Woman" (v. 4; see John 5:19)? Is he rejecting her request? What does Jesus mean when he says "My hour has not yet come" (see John 7:30; 8:20; 12:23, 27)? Why is Jesus thinking about his "hour" at a wedding (see Isaiah 62:5)? What role does Jesus assume at the wedding? What is he saying about himself (see John 3:28-29)?
5. How does Jesus save the day at this wedding? What does he do? Who gets the credit for Jesus' action (see vv. 9-11)? What is John telling us about Jesus?
6. What water does Jesus turn into wine (see v. 6)? Why is this significant? What does wine symbolize in Scripture (see Psalm 104:15; Amos 9:13-14; Jeremiah 31:12-13)?

### Application

7. Jeff noted that Jesus is saying at least four things when he turns water into wine; (1) "the time of preparation is over"; (2) "the time for joy is now"; (3) "I have the best joy"; (4) "I have the most joy." Which of these points stood out to you? Jesus doesn't just want us to agree with him intellectually, but to experience his joy. How do we do this?
8. Jeff said that one reason we don't experience more joy in Jesus is because we have competing joy strategies; we still believe that true joy can be found elsewhere. Where else do you look for joy? Why do you look there? What does Jesus offer that your competing joy strategies cannot?