

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for October 25-26, 2003**

**Dale Whitehead**

**"Christ's First Miracle"**

**John 2:1-11**

What do we learn about the wedding in Cana of Galilee from John 2:1-11?

We learn that the response to the wedding invitation apparently went very well (John 2:1-2).

We learn that the response to the invitation went so well that it threatened to become an emotional and financial liability to the bridegroom's family (John 2:3-5).

Wine was considered by the Jews to be a staple article of food (Genesis 14:18; Numbers 6:20; Deuteronomy 14:26; Nehemiah 5:18; Matthew 11:19).

Because it was a staple of the Jewish diet, there was no way that anyone would put on a wedding feast without wine.

The term "woman" (GYNAI) was not a term of disrespect. This form of address was thoroughly courteous and is translated "dear woman" in the NIV.

Jesus chose the term "woman" to indicate to His mother that there was a new relationship between them as He enters His public ministry.

Jesus, in responding to His mother's request, used a Semitic idiom to ask a question that can be translated in numerous ways, but always distances the two parties.

Jesus, in His response to His mother's hidden request to come to the aid of their hosts, wanted her to understand that He was not operating according to her agenda anymore.

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When Jesus spoke of His hour having not yet come, He spoke about the appointed hour of His death (John 7:7-8; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23; 13:1; 17:1).

We learn that the threat of embarrassment to this Jewish family became an opportunity for Jesus to perform His first miracle (John 2:6-11).

When we ask the Lord for help, His provision will be more than adequate (Philippians 4:19).

The headwaiter had the primary responsibility for the wedding feast and may have been either a servant or one of the guests.

Though He may not give us our preferred response when we pray, He will give us the perfect response.