



Pacific Community Church

Growth Group Sermon Questions

Date: October 18th, 2026

Sermon Series: Standalone

Sermon Title: “What are you running out of?”

Primary Text(s): John 2:1-12

1. Read John 2:1-12.
2. **Icebreaker Question:** What’s a small problem that felt like a big deal at the time?

Leader’s Notes: Start lighthearted to help everyone feel comfortable sharing. The wine running out at a wedding was a genuine social embarrassment in that cultural context, even if it might not seem like a major crisis to us today.

3. **Why do you think Jesus included this miracle as Jesus’ first sign? Read John 2:11 and John 20:31. What do these verses tell us about the purpose of Jesus’ signs?**

Leader’s Notes: John isn’t simply recording an impressive miracle. The signs reveal Jesus’ glory and point to His identity as the Messiah and Son of God. The goal is that people would believe in Him and find life in His name.

4. **Mary noticed a problem and brought it to Jesus. What stands out to you about how she approached Him? Read John 2:3-5. What can we learn from the way Mary brought this need to Jesus?**

Leader’s Notes: Mary simply stated the problem: “They have no more wine.” She didn’t provide a detailed plan or tell Jesus exactly how to fix it. This is a helpful picture of prayer. We can honestly bring our needs to Jesus without having all the answers or finding perfect words. We can simply state the problem.

5. **What kinds of problems do we sometimes hesitate to bring to Jesus, and why? Consider whether we sometimes think our problems are too small, too embarrassing, too complicated, or too far beyond our control.**

Leader’s Notes: Encourage honesty without pressuring anyone to disclose something deeply personal. We may avoid prayer because of shame, self-reliance, fear of disappointment, or the belief that we should be able to handle everything ourselves.

6. **Jesus responded to Mary by saying, “My hour has not yet come.” What does this interaction teach us about trusting Jesus’ timing?**

Leader's Notes: Jesus' response points to the Father's purposes and the timing of Jesus' mission, which John develops throughout the Gospel. We don't always understand God's timing, and bringing a problem to Jesus doesn't guarantee an immediate or expected outcome. We can still trust His character when we cannot see His plan.

- 7. Jesus turned a shortage into an abundance of excellent wine. Read John 2:6-10. What do you notice about the amount, quality, and unexpected nature of His provision? What does this reveal about Jesus?**

Leader's Notes: Jesus provides abundantly and generously, and the quality of the wine surprises the banquet master. Avoid suggesting that every problem will be resolved with material abundance; the sign primarily reveals Jesus' glory and identity.

- 8. Why do you think Jesus asked the servants to fill the jars with water before the miracle was revealed? What might this teach us about faith, obedience, and taking the next step when we don't know what Jesus is doing?**

Leader's Notes: The servants obeyed Jesus without being given the full explanation. Their obedience did not cause Jesus' power, but it placed them in the middle of what He was doing. Sometimes, faithfulness means taking the next clear step even when we cannot see the whole picture.

- 9. Mary told the servants, "Do whatever He tells you." What makes this such an important response to Jesus? How is trusting Jesus different from simply asking Him to bless the solution we've already decided we want?**

Leader's notes: Prayer isn't only about asking Jesus to solve problems our way. It's also about surrendering our preferred outcomes and becoming willing to obey him. Invite the group to consider the difference between seeking Jesus' direction and seeking His approval for our own plans.

- 10. What problem do you need to bring to Jesus this week, and what would it look like to trust and obey Him in the middle of it? What is one concrete next step you can take?**

Leader's notes: Give everyone a quiet moment to reflect and hear from God before inviting responses. Encourage specific, measurable steps rather than vague intentions. Participants can share only what they feel comfortable sharing.