LESSON 1: WATER INTO WINE

AIM: To show that Jesus is the only one who can change us into Christians

MEMORY VERSE: When someone becomes a Christian, he is a brand new person inside (2 Corinthians 5:17)

OPENING IDEA: Tell the story, “Food has to Change”
When you eat a piece of cake, it has to change. That light, fluffy inside with the chocolate icing tastes great on its way down, but by the time it gets to your stomach, that cake had better begin to change if it is going to be good for you.

The pancreas is an important organ that has the job of changing that chocolate cake. Maybe you have never heard of the pancreas before. It isn’t as well known as the heart or brain. But without a healthy pancreas, life will become difficult. The pancreas is hiding just behind your stomach. It is a fairly long, slender organ. When the chocolate cake starts its trip through your body, the pancreas begins its work at once. The sugars and other carbohydrates have to be treated immediately. Your body can’t accept these unless they are changed. The pancreas makes a chemical called insulin. It is this insulin which changes the sugars, making them ready to travel throughout the system.

Maybe you have a relative or friend who is a diabetic. There are many of them. They may be diabetic because the pancreas does not produce enough insulin. This can happen to adults or children. The diabetic must get insulin and put it into his body. This is the only way he can stay healthy. This happens often. There are probably some students in your school who are diabetic. Before insulin became available as a medicine, many diabetics died. Today insulin is made either from special chemicals or taken from animals.

When the insulin from the pancreas fails to change food into usable form, the body suffers and the person needs help. Change is an important part of life. We would not have cars if we could not change minerals into metals. We would not have clothing if we could not change cotton and other products into cloth.
God is in the business of change. Some caterpillars change into butterflies, and tadpoles change into frogs. He changes mountain snow into beautiful streams of running water. He is also interested in changing people. Some people have led mean lives and then God changed them. Others were lonely and had no reason to live. God gave them purpose. Some felt far away from God and then He introduced himself.

There may be some things you would like to change in your life. God would like to help you make that change.

“When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun.” (1 Cor. 5:17 TLB)

**PREPARATION:** 1 jug water, 2 glasses, several drops of red food colouring.

Put several drops of red food colouring into one glass. Set up jug and glasses before children arrive. Cover jug with cloth. During the appropriate part of the story, pour the water into the empty glass and explain that it is similar to the water that the servants poured into the pots at the wedding. Then pour water slowly into the other glass with food colouring to represent the water turning into wine.

**DISCUSSION STARTER:**
Ask the children if they have been to a wedding. Discuss the things they like most about weddings.

Weddings are times of happy celebrations with gifts and best clothes and lots of food and drink among friends.

Jesus went to a wedding with his mother and the disciples, and something happened that revealed His heavenly glory and strengthened their faith in Him.
STORY: THE WEDDING AT CANA (John 2:1-11)

One day Jesus and his mother and the disciples were invited to a wedding in a town called Cana. It might have been a relative who was getting married.

It was an exciting and happy event with music and dancing and good food. But as the guests sat down for the feast, Mary noticed that the guests had drunk all the wine and the jars were empty. The bride’s parents became embarrassed because there was nothing left to drink.

Mary whispered to Jesus that there was no more wine. Then she went to the servants who were serving the guests and told them to do whatever Jesus said. Standing in the room were six huge water pots normally used for washing. Jesus told the servants to fill the pots up to the top with clean fresh water. (Pour the water from the Jug into the first glass.) The servants were probably a little puzzled as they listened to Jesus’ instructions, but they obeyed him anyway. Then Jesus told them to pour some out into glasses. (Pour water into the other glass with the food colouring.) Imagine their surprise as they saw that the water not only changed colour but also had become wine.

When the guests tasted the wine they were amazed. They had never tasted anything as good at a wedding before. Usually the best wine was served first and the poorer stuff was used when the better wine had run out. Jesus had performed a miracle - the water was different, it had become heavenly drink. The disciples had not seen Jesus perform a miracle before, and now they saw his power and believed and trusted in Jesus in a greater way.

Jesus had changed the water into wine just as he changed the disciples from fishermen into his faithful followers. Jesus is also able to change us into God’s people by washing us clean from sin and giving us a new life inside our hearts. We become a brand new person when we accept Jesus into our hearts and lives.

ACTIVITY: Complete the worksheet by writing the story of the Wedding at Cana in students’ own words.
Write the story of Jesus' first miracle in your own words

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John 2:1-11

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The WEDDING at CANA
CROSSWORD FUN

Jesus turned water into wine at one of these.
In the squares going down, write the word that matches the picture.
Then fill in the blank squares across the top to find the answer.

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What does this Bible story say to you?

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Write a sentence about the miracle at the wedding at Cana __________________

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Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding at Cana. Help Jesus find his way to the water jars.

(John 2:1-11)
DOT TO DOT …. Join up the dots to find out what happened at the wedding at Cana

JESUS TURNS WATER INTO WINE

CROSSWORD

Water into Wine - John 2:1-11

Across

4. A large meal of celebration; rhymes with "least."
8. An alcoholic beverage made from fermented grapes.

Down

1. Where Jesus turned water into wine. John 2:1
2. Large vessels for holding liquid.
3. Jesus turned ________ into wine.
4. To make full.
5. Mary was the __________ of Jesus.
7. Ten minus four equals ________.
In the town of Cana in Galilee there was a wedding. Jesus and his mother, Mary, were invited, and so were the twelve disciples. The guests were sitting down to the feast when Mary noticed that the jugs were already empty. She whispered to her son, ‘There is no more wine.’ She then told a servant who was standing nearby to do whatever Jesus said.

There were some huge stone water jars standing against the wall, each one so big that two men were needed to carry it. Jesus called the servant to him, ‘Fill those jars with water,’ he said. When the jars had been filled to the brim, Jesus said, ‘Now take some to the guest of honour so that he may taste it.’

The most important guest, sitting close to the bridegroom, did not know where this wine had come from, but at the first sip he knew it was exceptionally good. Rising to his feet, he toasted the bridegroom. ‘You are a generous man!’ he said. ‘Most people give good wine at the start of a banquet, then the cheap stuff last, but you have kept the best until last!’ And he threw his head back and took a drink of the good wine.

Jesus had turned the jars of water into wine. This act was the first miraculous sign from Jesus to give everyone a glimpse of His glory, and the disciples believed in Him.