

“My Jesus Likes to Party” — John 2:1-22

Discussion Guide, 27 Sept 2020

- (1) How is our (or your) “version” of Jesus today similar to the Jesus of John’s Gospel? How is this “version” different from John’s Jesus?
- (2) Have you put much thought into Jesus as the Bridegroom and the Gospel story as a great wedding before this? In what ways do these images both affirm and challenge your current conceptions of Jesus and the Gospel story?
- (3) Jesus’ first sign is at a lavish party (a wedding), pointing to an even far more lavish party (the Wedding Banquet of the Lamb). What effect, if any, should this have on both our “version” of Jesus and also how we live?
- (4) In our passage, John details Jesus’ first sign and previews the eighth: water to wine, death to life. Compare with the first and last sign of the Exodus story (Exodus 7:14-25; 11:1-8) to discuss how different (and how much better) the New Exodus of John’s Gospel is in comparison to the first exodus. What have we seen so far in John to further strengthen the comparison?
- (5) In what ways is Jesus far superior to the Temple, which he condemns (and eventually supplants)? What institutions around us today compete for our allegiance to Jesus?