

# NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD WK 2 // THE BLOOD SANCTIFIES

## Intro //

- Hey Faith Students! Such a great word last week on how the blood saves and covers us. So excited to jump back in on the power of the blood!
- Open your bibles to **John 2** hold it for later...

## Illustration //

- Share a story of how infomercials (those dumb commercials that they to sell you something stupid) always slightly tempt us to buy something.
- The main phrase that pulls us in is "But Wait, There's More!"
  - But this phrase but what there is more catches us... it gets our attention because our curious mind says what if this thing I thought i knew all about, there was more to it?
  - Tonight we are going to walk through a story that we probably have heard if we have been in church long enough...

## BACKSTORY //

- The story of Jesus' first public miracle... .
- We see this miracle of Jesus turning water into wine at a wedding because they were about to run out. This story has cultural significance and context.
  - In this time period not having wine at a wedding was equivalent to going to the prom in all white and having a huge brown stain on the back of your pants. It's like the whole school pushing you in the middle of a dance circle and you slip and fart as soon as the music cuts off.
  - Not having wine or running out of wine was social assassination. You would be the laughing stock of the whole town. It shows low financial status and was a sign of disrespect to people attending.
  - But what if I told you that this story of Jesus saving this family from embarrassment by turning water into wine there was more to it than you thought? What if it actually showed us a glimpse of the power of the blood?
    - Look at your neighbor and say "**But wait, there's more!**"

## SCRIPTURE // JOHN 2:1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." 4 "Woman,[a] why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.[b] 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, 9 and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink;

but you have saved the best till now.” 11 What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## PRAY

- There are so many amazing things and lessons in this scripture: The wedding shows us that kind people cover others who are in trouble or in need. The story also shows these servants in the background of this party, listening to Jesus' direction on filling the jars, and drawing some out. It shows how even the least of these can participate in the greatest miracles when they are obedient to God. But today I want to focus on these jars... **Because wait, there's more...**
  - Because think about it, Jesus doesn't do anything by accident or mistake, and he chose these jars out of everything that was there. He could have just made everyone's cup continue to fill up in their own hands. He could have used bowls, maybe even what the wine was already in!
  - But he uses 6 stone jars used for ceremonial washing... Say but wait there is more...
    - **The Number 6 -**
      - The number 6 and its meaning are related to man and human weakness. It was a number that represented one short of perfection. Man was created on day six of creation week with the seven day being the day of completion. In scripture, humanity is appointed 6 days to labor and then they are commanded to rest on the seventh day.
      - A Hebrew slave had to serve 6 years before he could be released in the 7th year being the year of freedom.
      - 6 time and time again (not every time) represented incompleteness, coming up short, or missing the mark...
      - **The thing about this number is that it represents incompleteness...**
    - **Ceremonial Washing -**
      - In the Hebrew Scriptures, these washings symbolized cleansing from sin and guilt. Whereas sacrifices were to atone for acts of sin, washing or bathing seems generally associated with cleansing from a sinful or otherwise unholy condition.
      - This is where we get the phrase "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" which is not a scripture! While the exact phrase "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" does not appear in the Bible, the scriptures emphasize the importance of cleanliness. In the Old Testament, numerous laws regarding physical and spiritual cleanliness were given to the Israelites. [Leviticus 15](#) details various purification rituals required to maintain cleanliness. These rituals were not only about physical hygiene but also about spiritual purification.
      - **The thing about this system is it was temporary...**

**This old cleansing system was incomplete and temporary...**

## CLEAN BUT NOT QUITE

- See Jesus knew that we were messy...
  - [Romans 3:23](#) - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
  - [Isaiah 64:6](#) - For we all have become like one who is [ceremonially] unclean [like a leper], And all our deeds of righteousness are like filthy rags; We all wither and decay like a leaf, And our wickedness [our sin, our injustice, our wrongdoing], like the wind, takes us away [carrying us far from God's favor, toward destruction].
  - [Jerimiah 17:9](#) - "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?"
- See, Jesus knew no matter how many times we tried to clean ourselves up. That we would still miss the mark. That we would run away from Him and run to other idols in guilt, shame, and humiliation for the things we have done.
  - Jesus knew that in ourselves we could be clean but not quite...
  - **But what if I told you that wait, there's more...**

## THE BLOOD CLEANSSES FOREVER

- Because we see in this story that He takes these jars that represent a flawed, temporary cleansing system and tells the servants to fill them up and out of what is used to cleanse turns water into wine...
  - **WINE -**
    - Wine is a significant symbol in the bible. It usually points to a symbol for the blood of Jesus. That's why during communion we have bread and red juice or wine. To remember the body that was broken and the blood that was shed of Jesus... What he did on the cross. What Jesus was saying in this moment and foreshadowing is that blood did something that the old way cleansing couldn't do, it cleaned us of all sin, forever!
    - BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE! God not only cleanses but sanctifies!
  - **Sanctification** - Is the life long journey of God cleansing you, taking you out of your old sinful self, and making you look more like Jesus.
    - This happens because of what Jesus did, and it happens through the Holy Spirit.
    - So not only does God clean you up but he gives you a new identity and purpose!

But it all starts with forgiveness and exposure. Being cleansed by the blood, being sanctified for the rest of our lives, it all starts with receiving forgiveness and identity from the Father... Forgiveness and exposure is the starting point to get rid of the old and walk in the new...

- [1 John 1:7-9](#) - But if we keep living in the pure light that surrounds him, we share unbroken fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, continually cleanses us from all sin. If we boast that we have no sin, we're only fooling ourselves and are strangers to the truth. But if we freely admit our sins when his light uncovers them, he will be faithful to forgive us every time. God is just to forgive us our sins because of Christ, and he will continue to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**ALTAR OPTIONS //**

1. WORSHIP (Thank God for what He has done)
2. COMMUNION
3. HAVE STUDENTS WRITE OLD LABELS AND PUT THEM ON THE CROSS, THEN HAVE THINGS GOD CALLS US FOR THEM TO TAKE.