

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

FROM THE MESSAGES OF
ADRIAN ROGERS



Jesus Is the Answer

Published by Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc.

PO Box 38300

Memphis TN 38183-0300

Copyright © 2022 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by USA copyright law.

This Bible study is taken from the series, A Parade of Miracles.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version.® Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Printed in the United States of America

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
WEEK 1	
Jesus is the Answer to Disappointment.....	3
WEEK 2	
Jesus is the Answer to Doubt.....	17
WEEK 3	
Jesus is the Answer to Disability.....	31
WEEK 4	
Jesus is the Answer to Desires.....	45
WEEK 5	
Jesus is the Answer to Despair	59
WEEK 6	
Jesus is the Answer to Darkness.....	73
WEEK 7	
Jesus is the Answer to Death.....	87

INTRODUCTION

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

In this study, we will look at seven miracles with a message in the Gospel of John. They are literal, actual miracles, but they are also signs with significance. They are miracles that carry messages of grace and teach us great, eternal spiritual truths.

These miracles show us that Jesus is the answer to all of our questions and troubles in this life. Jesus turns water into wine because the wines of this world run out while He gives joy that is full and free forever. Jesus is at work in spite of our doubts! When we can't do what we need to do to be made whole, Jesus heals our brokenness and becomes our strength. Jesus feeds 5,000 people to show us that His grace meets our deepest needs and desires. Jesus walks on water to show that everything over our heads is already under His feet. Jesus heals physically blind eyes so that we can recognize our inability to see spiritual truth. He opens our spiritual eyes so that we can be in relationship with Him. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead to show us that He is the resurrection and the life.

John's purpose in writing the Gospel of John was that we might believe and be saved.

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30-31).

We hope that by the end of this study you will see Jesus as the answer to your questions. We hope you'll see how much He cares for you—He died so that you could fully live!

Want more? The audio messages by Pastor Adrian Rogers from which this study is derived are linked using the QR code at the end of this study.

A 'joyless Christian'
is an oxymoron.

ADRIAN ROGERS



WEEK 1

JESUS IS THE ANSWER TO DISAPPOINTMENT

■ INTRODUCTION

The Gospel of John contains seven major miracles that Jesus performed during His earthly ministry. Jesus used these signs and wonders to demonstrate that He is the answer to all of Man's problems. Each miracle addressed a specific problem in the human heart; collectively, the miracles made the case that Jesus was the Messiah the Jews had been waiting for.

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name (John 20:30-31).

Jesus performed many astounding miracles, but His most incredible display of power was His use of miracles to transform hearts. Jesus' transformative power still works in people's hearts today.

Jesus' first miracle took place in John 2 at a wedding in Cana, where Jesus turned water into wine. On the surface, one might think it was just a display of His power to perform miracles. But when we look deeper, we see that Jesus used this miracle for a greater purpose: to transform hearts and to offer His followers abundant life.

This week we will discover that Jesus is God's answer to Man's disappointment. He came to give us abundant life!

■ PRAY OVER IT

Dear God, when I seek satisfaction in other things, I'm always disappointed. But I know that abundant life is only found in You. What You offer me is better than anything I could find on my own. Transform me from the inside out and help me find abundant life in You alone. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

DAY 1

THE SETTING OF THE MIRACLE

■ PONDER IT

The first important detail about Jesus' first miracle is **the setting: a wedding.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!"

This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him (John 2:1-11).

The wedding was a happy occasion. Jesus attended both weddings and funerals in His lifetime. He never broke up feasts, but He often broke up funerals. The fact that He performed His first miracle at a wedding tells us that Jesus is not a cosmic killjoy, but that He came so that we would have abundant joy.

A little boy was setting the communion table at church when he saw the cross on the communion table. He had just learned how to add and subtract at school that week. He approached his mother and asked, “Mother, what is that plus sign on the communion table?”

She replied, “Son, that’s not a plus sign; it’s the cross where Jesus died for our sins. But it is a positive sign—a symbol that Jesus came so that we would have a wonderfully beautiful life in Him.”

The biblical accounts don’t mention the identity of the bride and groom. These were probably common people Jesus was friends with, and that tells us that Jesus associates with all kinds of people. He doesn’t choose His relationships based on a person’s status or reputation.

Jesus loves ordinary people and cares enough to be involved in their day-to-day lives. He cared enough to serve the refreshments at a party, and He wants to be with you just as much on Thursday morning at your office as He does on Sunday morning at church. He wants to be involved in your everyday circumstances because He wants to grow your relationship with Him.

■ **PUT IT IN WRITING**

- Do you think of Jesus more like a cosmic killjoy or more as a source of abundant joy? Why? What has influenced your perception of Him?
- What are some everyday, mundane moments in which you recognized Jesus’ presence in your life? What would it look like for you to invite Jesus into every moment of your life?

Jesus is interested in everyone,
every day, and every circumstance.

ADRIAN ROGERS

DAY 2

FORGIVENESS FILLED TO THE BRIM

■ PONDER IT

We must understand the **symbolism of the miracle**. Each part of this miracle was intentional.

Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, “Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!” (John 2:6-10).

Wine represents joy and strength in the Bible (see Psalm 104:15). The six waterpots were significant because the number six symbolizes mankind all throughout the Bible. Each of these six ritual cleansing jars was made of clay, just as Man is made from the dust of the Earth.

Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for caring more about ritual cleansing than they did about having pure hearts (see Mark 7). They valued external, religious actions and good works more than the internal condition of the heart. Jesus used the six pots to represent the traditional religion of the people: cold, stone pots filled with ritualism.

When the pots were filled to the brim, it represented the way in which Jesus fulfilled the entire law. All of the righteousness that the law required was fulfilled in the Lord Jesus.

Jesus said:

“For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matthew 5:18).

The new wine was also better than the old. The wine they had at the beginning of the wedding was their best, but it was inferior to the wine Jesus offered. Jesus brings in a new covenant that is even better than the old covenant under which the Jewish people lived. He came so that their striving would cease and that they could receive the free gift of love through salvation in Him.

The jars filled to the brim with new wine also symbolized abundant forgiveness. Jesus offered an abundance of wine for all who would come to drink, just like He offers salvation to anyone who will come and receive it.

When someone forgives you when you’ve hurt them, it is a pardon. But if they take you into their arms, embrace you, and lavish love and grace upon you, that is an abundant pardon. That is the kind of pardon we receive from Jesus. When the Lord saves us, He does more than deliver us from Hell; He gives us abundant and free life.

■ PUT IT IN WRITING

- Which symbol means the most to you: the wine, the six water pots, the filling of the pots to the brim, or the new wine being better than the old? Why?
- What does this miracle tell you about Jesus? Have you received the abundant forgiveness He offers to you? Why or why not?

Nobody’s happy all the time. But
you’re to have joy all the time. The Bible
says, “Rejoice in the Lord always:
and again I say, Rejoice.”

ADRIAN ROGERS

OBEDIENCE THAT BLESSES AND GLORIFIES

■ PONDER IT

The setting and the symbolism were important, but there was also a **secret in the miracle**: whatever Jesus tells you to do, obey.

And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.”

Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.”

His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it” (John 2:3-5).

Obey for your own good. These servants had the privilege of seeing Jesus’ glory displayed before anyone else. As Jesus’ servants, we receive the gift of being insiders, watching and experiencing what God is doing.

Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom (John 2:7-9).

Servants become friends and earn their spots in the inner circle. If you want the benefit of friendship with Jesus, you must first be His obedient servant.

Obey so that others receive gladness. When the wedding servants obeyed Jesus, everyone in attendance was blessed. When you obey the Lord, those in your life are also blessed.

Obey to be part of God’s work. When God performs a miracle, He usually performs it through a person. Jesus could have performed the miracle

without involving the servants or other wedding guests, but He chose to include the servants in His plan. God instrumentally uses human hands so we can experience the joy of doing His work.

Obey because obedience manifests His glory. Because of the obedience of the servants, Jesus displayed His glory. Obedience to Him gives Him glory.

This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him (John 2:11).

Peter learned to glorify Jesus through unconditional obedience. When Jesus first called him to be His disciple, He challenged Peter to cast out his fishing net one last time on an unsuccessful fishing day. Peter said that he and his companions had worked all night without catching anything. But ultimately he decided to obey and try one more time (see Luke 5:5). When Peter's boat started sinking because he caught so many fish, he experienced Jesus' glory.

Your life motto needs to be "at Your Word, I will." You don't need to understand God's commands to obey Him. Don't rely on the judgment bar of your own reasoning when it comes to God's commands. Just like filling the clay jars with water didn't make sense to the servants, sometimes doing what God asks of us doesn't make earthly sense. But God knows what He is doing. If we say that Jesus is our Lord, then we must obey Him.

■ **PUT IT IN WRITING**

- Do you obey Jesus even when His requests don't make sense to you? What is something He is asking you to do that you are having trouble doing? What does this story suggest happens when we obey?
- Why should we obey Jesus? Which of the benefits listed motivates you to obey? Do you see any other benefits to obedience?

Jesus has a way of turning the
monotonous to the momentous.

ADRIAN ROGERS

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MIRACLE

■ PONDER IT

We must see **the significance of the miracle**. He transformed worthless water into delicious wine, and He is still at work transforming human hearts today.

Jesus transformed Simon Peter, a big-mouth fisherman into the flaming apostle of Pentecost. He transformed the Apostle John, nicknamed the Son of Thunder, into the apostle of love. He transformed Matthew, a tax collector, into the writer of His Gospel. He transformed Mary, a demon-possessed harlot, into a herald of the resurrection. The significance of this first miracle at the wedding in Cana was a demonstration of transformation.

A man gave his testimony of salvation at a crusade. A bystander started heckling, telling the man to get off the stage and stop spreading fairy tales. Suddenly, the heckler felt a tug at his shirt. He looked down and saw a little girl looking up at him.

The girl said, "Excuse me, sir, may I tell you something? That man up there is my daddy. My mommy used to be sad all the time because he would hit her. He spent all his money on whiskey. I didn't have good clothes or shoes to wear, but do you see the pretty dress and nice shoes I'm wearing?"

"Well, yes," he replied.

"My daddy met Jesus and doesn't spend his money on alcohol anymore. My mommy sings when she irons our clothes because my daddy is kind to her now. So please, sir, let my daddy talk about what Jesus did in His heart so that other little girls can have better daddies, too."

The One who turned water into wine is the One who can radically and eternally change any heart that will come to Him. Jesus is in the radical transformation business.

■ **PUT IT IN WRITING**

- How has Jesus transformed your heart?

Nature forms us, sin deforms us,
education informs us, and penitentiaries
reform us, but Jesus transforms us.

ADRIAN ROGERS

DAY 5

THE SEQUEL TO THE MIRACLE

■ PONDER IT

Another wedding feast is coming, and this miracle prophecies about what is coming. **There will be a sequel to Jesus' miracle.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee (John 2:1a).

The Apostle John mentioned that this wedding took place on the third day for a purpose. The number three is significant in the Bible. It symbolizes completeness.

For example, God often did things three times to emphasize completeness (see 1 Samuel 3:8, Matthew 26:4, and John 21:15-17). There were three patriarchs of Israel, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (see Matthew 22:32). The Holy Trinity is made up of three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and Jesus died and was raised on the third day (see 1 Corinthians 15:4).

In 2 Peter, when talking about the Second Coming of the Lord, Peter writes this:

But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day (2 Peter 3:8).

Since Jesus began these miracles, two “days” of human history have passed. It has been 2,000 years since Jesus walked the Earth, and now the third “day” is dawning. Some believe that this wedding typifies and prefigures another wedding that is coming, the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Jesus' earthly ministry started with a wedding, and the completion of God's plan of redemption will come with a wedding.

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” (Revelation 19:7-9).

At that feast, the wine of joy will run freely. His glory will be eminently manifested at that wedding feast. It will not be hidden or veiled like it was at this wedding in Cana. With Jesus, life keeps getting better and better.

Jesus fulfilled the old covenant God made with His people and also ushered in a new covenant. The wine that the hosts served at the beginning of the wedding feast was their best, but it was inferior and limited because it would eventually run out. Through this miracle, Jesus demonstrated that He is a well of joy, marked not only by quality, but also by endless quantity. This is the abundant life we will enjoy in eternity with Jesus, and it starts at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

As we look forward to His second coming, the world will grow increasingly dark. Satan gives the best first. Jesus gives the best last. But as we grow closer in our relationship with Jesus, each day gets sweeter. Every pain and heartache will one day come to an end when we see Him face to face.

■ PUT IT IN WRITING

- As you wait for Christ to return, how do you see the world growing darker?
- How are you experiencing sweetness in your relationship with Jesus?

Praise God! It is growing gloriously dark. Before long our Morning Star will appear. Jesus Christ is on His way.

ADRIAN ROGERS

DAY 6

JESUS IS GOD'S ANSWER TO MAN'S DISAPPOINTMENT

■ PRACTICE IT

Jesus miraculously turned water into wine to symbolize the miraculous transformation of hearts. His greatest miracle of all is the gift of new birth that each of us receives when we accept salvation in Him.

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name (John 20:30-31).

Jesus is the answer to our disappointments. This earthly life will be full of disappointments when things don't go the way we think they should. But God doesn't want us to resign ourselves to disappointing, unfulfilling lives. When we believe in Him, rely on Him, and obey Him, He offers us more than the world could ever offer. He gives us fulfilling, abundant life.

If you need God to transform your heart, you can accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior and receive eternal life right now. You will find a life much better than anything you could work for on your own. Jesus offers abundant life and abundant forgiveness. If you'd like to be saved, pray something like this:

Lord Jesus, I need You and I want You. I believe You died for my sins and that God raised You from the dead. I open my heart and I receive You as my Lord and Savior. I don't look for a sign, and I don't ask for a feeling. But I stand on your Word and trust You to save me. Forgive my sin and save me. Help me to make it public and to never be ashamed of You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

■ PROCLAIM IT

Share with a friend or mentor how God is calling you to step into abundant life with Him. Tell someone who needs to be saved about the abundant forgiveness that Jesus offers all who call on Him.

If you prayed to receive Christ, please share your decision with another Christian you know or with your pastor. We would also like to hear about it, so that we can provide you with free resources to help you grow in your new faith. Please let us know by going to lwf.org/discover-jesus, scrolling down the page and clicking on *I Believe*.

The miracles of grace are always
greater than the miracles of glory.

ADRIAN ROGERS