

## **LIFEGROUP NOTES: JOHN 2:1-12**

*As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.*

### **Introduction**

1. How do you instinctively think of God? Is there an image of God that has been dominant in your mind?

### **Read John 2:1-12 and discuss:**

2. Why do you think Jesus responds the way He does in verse 4? What is Jesus referring to when He says "my hour has not yet come"? Compare John 7:30; 8:20; 12:23, 27; 13:1; 17:1. How does it help us understand Jesus' reason for coming into the world? How should this influence our understanding of what Jesus does here in John 2:1-12?
3. See v.6 – big jars indeed! Compare texts such as Isa 25:6; 55:1 – why do you think the Old Testament chose an abundance of wine as a symbol of God's coming kingdom? What is this meant to suggest to us?
4. Stay with v.6. What were these ceremonial washings all about? Compare Mark 7:1-4. What did these washings symbolize – and what did they actually achieve? What does Jesus say about our need for washing, and how lasting cleansing is achieved (see John 13:8; compare 1John 1:7)?
5. Putting these things together: Jesus brings the abundant wine – the sign of God's kingdom – from the place of purification (the water jars). His "hour" has not yet come – but how does the symbolism of this miracle help us to understand what He will actually achieve when finally He dies on the cross?
6. See v.11. Why does John refer to miracles as "signs"? Why do you think this was Jesus' first miracle?
7. How does this miracle affect the way you think about God? Where in your life at the moment do you need to remember – and taste – the abundance and joy of God's kingdom?

### **In Conclusion**

- Remember that the aim of John's gospel is "that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (20:31). How has this passage helped you in this way? Pray in the light of this.

*Eddie Larkman, January 2018*