

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



THE IDENTITY OF JESUS IS REVEALED

John 2:1-11 The wedding at Cana

AIM: To learn about Jesus' first miracle

Our story today takes us to a wedding in Cana, a village in Galilee. Jesus and the other guests are having a great time and then the wine runs dry. Jesus faces a dilemma. Should he perform the miracle his mum (Mary) is asking him to, or stay quiet and continue to keep a low profile? In today's session we find out what happens at the wedding and explore how we can show the miracle of Jesus to others.

Each child will need:

→ A5 paper, pens/pencils

Start It

 **Say:** In today's session we will be thinking about all the ways we can share the miracles of Jesus with others. As part of this we are going to be thinking about ways that people raise money for charities like Comic Relief and The Salvation Army, so that others can get the help they need. As a fun starter, watch the history of Comic Relief's red nose and then see if you can design your own.

Video

The history of red noses by Comic Relief (1 min 9 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=3meEwmszBzI

Give each child a piece of A5 paper and three minutes to create their own Comic Relief red nose. After three minutes ask the children to share their ideas with the rest of the group.

Sing It

 **Say:** Our song for today links to our memory verse and reminds us that we are all part of the body of Christ. In Romans 12:5 we read:

'In the same way, we are many, but in Christ we are all one body. Each one is a part of that body. And each part belongs to all the other parts.'

— (Romans 12:5 ICB)

'One body in Christ' by The Gospel Project (2 mins 55 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKvYNdMhWKQ

Memory verse

 **Say:** Let's share our memory verse together.

'All of you together are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of that body.'

— (1 Corinthians 12:27 ICB)

Tell It

Ask:

- Do you always do what your parent or carer asks you to do?
- When do you find it most difficult to do as you're told?
- Have you ever had a really good reason why you didn't want to do what a parent or carer was asking you to do? Share your story with the rest of the group.

Say: In today's story Jesus was asked by his mum to do something very special. The only problem was, it seems like he didn't want to do it. Watch the clip to find out why.

Video

Jesus turns water into wine by Saddleback Kids (1 min 56 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7plJa_qnVug

Discuss:

- Where did Jesus spend his childhood? What was he doing?
- What special event did Jesus attend, and who was there with him?
- What went wrong at the wedding, and how did Mary ask Jesus to help out?
- What did Jesus tell the servants to do? What happened?

Say: From that moment on people started to discuss who Jesus was, and his disciples started to believe in him and follow him.

Ask:

- Do you think we see miracles from Jesus today? Share some examples.
- What miracles would you like to see in our world today?
- Do you sometimes wonder why we don't see more miracles when they would make the world a better place? If so, why do you think that is?

Say: When Jesus came to live on this earth, he did amazing things. Turning water into wine was just the start.

Action It

Say: We might sometimes feel like we don't see the miracles of Jesus any more, but they can be seen in the hearts and actions of people across the world.

Say: Red Nose Day is on Friday 17 March and through this event Comic Relief raises millions to help people in this country and abroad. Each person who donates, fundraises, or offers to help, is a mini miracle.

Ask: How could you be a mini miracle this Red Nose Day?

Today's Action It section can go in the direction that you would like as the group leader. The main aim is for the children to consider ways that they can be mini miracles in the world. The focus could be on a smaller fundraising activity for Comic Relief or a longer-term project that will go toward your corps' Self-Denial Appeal.

Once you have decided which cause you would like to support, spend time with the children planning a fundraising or helping event. This activity could take many different forms, but the purpose is to empower the children to feel that they can share the miracle of Jesus with others through their actions.

Pray It

Say: For our prayer time today we are going to listen to a song that talks of the miracles of Jesus. There is a lot of suffering in our world, but Jesus is here with us. The song reminds us that Jesus is a God of miracles.

Video

'The miracle' by Shawna Edwards (5 mins 13 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGnucFr119E

If you feel it would benefit the group, you could ask the children to find a place to lie down or close their eyes. The song is just over five minutes, so feel free to fade it out if the children become restless. When the song has finished, pray with the children.

Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

MARCH
SESSION 02

THE IDENTITY OF JESUS IS REVEALED

 John 2:1-11 The wedding at Cana

© AIM: To learn about Jesus' first miracle

FOR ME



Create

As we continue to learn the memory verse for this month, create a picture version of it to put up at home.

TOGETHER



Explore

Have a look on the Comic Relief website with someone at home. What last-minute activity could you do together to raise money to help those in need? www.comicrelief.com



Song for the week

'One body in Christ' by The Gospel Project
www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKvYNdMhWKQ



Memory verse

'All of you together are the body of Christ.
Each one of you is a part of that body.'

— (1 Corinthians 12:27 ICB)

KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

Kids Alive! The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

