

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

Wednesday Bible Study • February 25, 2026

THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE: A Journey Through the Gospel of John

Part 4: First Sign & First Cleansing - John 2:1–25

In John 2, Jesus performs His first miracle and cleanses the temple. Together, these two events reveal a central truth: outward religious activity is not the same as a surrendered heart. Jesus redefines what true worship and access to God actually look like.

PART 1 - Water Into Wine (John 2:1–11)

Read John 2:1–11

- **vv. 1–2** Jesus attends a wedding in Cana with His mother and disciples.
- **vv. 3–4** Mary reports the wine has run out. Jesus responds: “My hour has not yet come.”
- **v. 5** Mary’s instruction to the servants: “Do whatever He tells you.”
- **vv. 6–7** Six stone jars for Jewish purification rites - filled to the brim at Jesus’ command.
- **vv. 8–10** Water becomes wine. The quality far surpasses what was served first.
- **v. 11** “This first of His signs... manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.”

Observation Questions

- 1. What do the stone jars represent?**
- 2. How does Jesus’ miracle contrast with ritual purification?**
- 3. How does obedience allow God’s glory to manifest?**

PART 2 - Cleansing the Temple (John 2:13–25)

Read John 2:13–25

- **vv. 13–14** Jesus finds merchants and money changers operating in the temple courts.
- **vv. 15–16** He drives them out: “Do not make My Father’s house a house of trade.”
- **v. 17** The disciples remember Scripture - Psalm 69:9.
- **vv. 18–19** Religious leaders demand a sign. Jesus answers: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”
- **vv. 20–22** Jesus speaks of His body as the temple - resurrection foreshadowed.
- **vv. 23–25** Many believed in response to signs, but Jesus did not entrust Himself to them - He knew their hearts.

Observation Questions

- 1. What had the temple become, and why was Jesus upset?**
 - 2. How does the cleansing show the difference between routine and true worship?**
 - 3. What does it mean that Jesus referred to His body as the temple?**
 - 4. How do believers today participate in true worship through Jesus?**
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KEY VERSES TO REMEMBER

- **John 2:5** - *“Do whatever He tells you.”*
- **John 2:11** - *“He manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.”*
- **John 2:16** - *“Do not make My Father’s house a house of trade.”*
- **John 2:19** - *“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”*
- **1 Corinthians 6:19** - *“Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.”*
- **John 4:23–24** - *“True worshipers will worship in spirit and truth.”*
- **Isaiah 29:13** - *“Their heart is far from Me... their worship of Me is a human rule.”*
- **Romans 12:1–2** - *“Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice... be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”*

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Take a few quiet moments before you respond. Let the Spirit lead.

- *Where might you be near Jesus but not fully surrendered?*
 - *Are there areas of your spiritual life that have become routine or transactional?*
 - *Which scripture from today challenges you most to examine the condition of your heart?*
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