

EUCCHARIST

DISCOVERING THE MASS IN THE BIBLE

LECTIO: EUCCHARIST FOR DISCIPLESHP GROUPS
MIRACLES OF JESUS SESSION 6

PARTICIPANT GUIDE



LECTIO

UNVEILING SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION

USER AGREEMENT

Nihil Obstat: Dr. Joseph E. Burns, *Censor Deputatus*

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Writers: Sean Dalton, Lucas Pollice, Randy Southern, Edward Sri

Media: Steve Flanigan, Jon Ervin, Justin Leddick, Kevin Mallory, Ted Mast, John Schmidt

Print Production/Graphic Design: Ann Diaz, Christina Gray, Brenda Kraft, Jane Meyers, Devin Schadt

Augustine Institute
6160 South Syracuse Way, Suite 310
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

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PART 1: THE WEDDING AT CANA



OPENING PRAYER



"On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples. When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast.' So they took it. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.' This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him."

—John 2:1-11

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds, conceal me.
Do not permit me to be parted from you.
From the evil foe, protect me.
At the hour of my death, call me.
And bid me come to you,
to praise you with all your saints for ever and ever.
Amen.*

—"Anima Christi," a prayer written by an unknown author in the early 14th century, and a favorite of St. Ignatius of Loyola, who included it in his Spiritual Exercises





DISCUSS

REVIEW QUESTIONS

» What struck you the most in Dr. Pitre's teaching on the wedding feast at Cana?

» Many of us have heard about Eucharistic miracles, such as at Lanciano, where during the eighth century the consecrated Host appeared as flesh and blood. Visiting the sites of such miracles can be a powerful experience, but we often forget that we witness a Eucharistic miracle every Sunday at Mass. What do you think is the significance of these extraordinary Eucharistic events/ miracles that have happened around the world?

» At the wedding feast of Cana, Jesus performs a miracle of superabundance by turning roughly 180 gallons of water to wine. Would anyone like to share a personal experience of the superabundant blessing of God?

» At the wedding feast of Cana, Mary tells the attendants, "Do whatever he tells you." How do these words resonate in your life today?



GO DEEPER QUESTIONS

» Everything Jesus does and says is intentional and charged with meaning. That being said, why do you think it is significant that the first miracle Jesus performed was at a wedding?

» How would you respond to someone who says you should only pray to God and not to Mary and the saints?

**CLOSING PRAYER**

*Lord God,
We thank you for the Eucharistic miracles you worked during your ministry on earth,
and for the ongoing miracle of the Eucharist you give us at each Mass.
We praise you for the superabundance of grace, love, and mercy in this Holy Sacrament.
Help us to share your superabundance in a world starved of hope and true joy.
Mary, may your words at the wedding feast of Cana,
“Do whatever he tells you,” resound in our hearts.
Give us the strength to follow your motherly instruction.
We pray this in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

PART 2: LOAVES AND FISHES



OPENING PRAYER



"As he went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children."

—Matthew 14:14-21

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds, conceal me.
Do not permit me to be parted from you.
From the evil foe, protect me.
At the hour of my death, call me.
And bid me come to you,
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Amen.*

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DISCUSS

REVIEW QUESTIONS

» Is there significance relating to the numbers in the two miracles of multiplication?

» What does the number twelve signify in the first miracle, and what does the number seven signify in the second?

» How does this varying number of baskets relate to Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 25:6–8?

» How is Jesus the “new Moses” in both the miracles of the wedding feast of Cana and the multiplication of loaves and fishes?



- » How do the miracles of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes point forward to the Last Supper?

GO DEEPER QUESTIONS

- » One Sunday morning, an old African chief was present at the Mass. Tears flooded his eyes as he watched members of the Ngoni, Senga, and Tumbuka tribes worshipping side by side. His mind had flashed back to his boyhood when he used to watch Ngoni warriors wash Senga and Tumbuka blood from their spears and bodies after a day's fighting. The contrast between what he had seen then and what he was seeing now overwhelmed him with emotion. How does this story illustrate, like the multiplication of the loaves, that the Eucharist is nothing less than God's plan for the whole world?

- » Out in front of a Catholic Church a sign read, "Interested in going to heaven? Apply here for flight training." What would you say to someone who looks at this sign and says, "I don't need to go to church...I can be just as close to God hiking outdoors on Sunday mornings"?





CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God,

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and for the ongoing miracle of the Eucharist you give us at each Mass.*

We praise you for the superabundance of grace, love, and mercy in this Holy Sacrament.

Help us to share your superabundance in a world starved of hope and true joy.

Mary, may your words at the wedding feast of Cana,

“Do whatever he tells you,” resound in our hearts.

Give us the strength to follow your motherly instruction.

We pray this in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.



NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.