

## Jesus Begins His Work

**Theme:** Faith—Believing that Jesus is the Son of God and following Him

**Works & Words activities related to this lesson** }

*Can You Find It?*, *Works & Words, Book 1*, page 8  
*Challenge Yourself*, *Works & Words, Book 2*, page 8



### Sunday Morning Lesson

#### Pre-Class Activity

**Bible Facts:** Go for the Bible Facts!

**Memory Verse:** Give each student an opportunity to say the Memory Verse for the class. When each one completes it, the children may show their approval as directed by the teacher. Help students who struggle with the memory work be successful. Give guests an opportunity to say the Memory Verse. Begin a display that will eventually feature all Memory Verses and the names of students who said them. Print the Memory Verse on a red circle and attach to a traffic light shape. Prepare a small red circle for each student with his or her name and the Memory Verse citation ready to put on the display. The color of the circle corresponds with the color of the Memory Verse in the display, as shown on page 9 of this Guide.

#### Prayer

#### Teaching Today's Lesson

1. In the classroom Bibles, find and mark John 2:1.
2. Move to the Bible story area.
3. Point out the place on the time line and find Cana on a map. Show that Canaan was an area in Old Testament times and Cana was a town in Galilee in New Testament times.
4. Ideas for telling the story:
  - Tell the story of Jesus' turning the water into wine. Use two opaque pitchers, one filled with water, the other, with red or purple Kool-Aid™ or Jello™ dry mix in the bottom. Pour the water into the Kool-Aid™ pitcher. Then pour the "wine" into a clear glass.
  - Explain to students that this activity is a trick to demonstrate what it was like when Jesus changed the water to wine. But when Jesus performed this miracle it was not

a trick. Discuss the difference between miracle and magic. Discuss why Jesus did miracles while He was on the earth. He taught people about the Kingdom and many people followed Him

- Tell the story of Jesus' driving the money-changers out of the temple. Use a birdcage and a bag of coins on top of an empty desk. As you tell the story, turn the desk over, and let the children tell why Jesus did that.
- Use the Finger People, *Stop, Look, and Listen Lesson Graphics* showing Jesus turning water into wine, and other props to show the different scenes.
- At the appropriate time in the lesson, read together John 2:1-11

5. Major points of today's lesson, adjusting more or less for different age groups:

- Jesus taught people about the Kingdom and many people followed Him
- Jesus went to a wedding feast where he turned the water to wine
- Jesus performed many other miracles to show He was God's son
- Jesus went to the Temple and was angry when he saw people selling things in the house of worship. He turned the sellers' tables over and chased them out of them temple.
- Some people were angry with Jesus; some were afraid; and some were excited that the Son of God was in the world.

#### Things to Get or Do for Sunday Morning

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## Jesus Begins His Work

**Theme:** Faith—Believing that Jesus is the Son of God and following Him

**Works & Words activities related to this lesson** }

*Water Into Wine, Works & Words, Book 1, page 9*

*Miracle Match-ups, Works & Words, Book 2, page 9*

### Wednesday Night Lesson

#### Pre-Class Activity

**Bible Facts:** Go for the Bible Facts!

**Memory Verse:** Repeat the Sunday Morning memory work activity for any students who were not present. Talk with all students about what the verse(s) tell us about God.

#### Prayer

#### Starter

Think about a sports team at the first of the playing season, before it plays an official game. Fans have high hopes for the team. They want the team to play hard and well, and to win games. They read about the team in the newspaper and watch their scrimmage games. If the team begins the season and wins games, people are interested. They keep watching their team's games on television and may even get tickets to a game. But if the team loses most of its games, fans are unhappy and many lose interest. It isn't much fun to follow a losing team.

When He was around thirty years old, Jesus began His life's work in the world. He caught people's attention by His mighty words and works. People became interested in what Jesus was doing and saying and followed Him wherever He went. Some people traveled a long distance to be with Jesus. Try to put yourself in their place. Would you follow Jesus?

#### Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning

#### Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

1. **Objective:** Discuss that Jesus had abilities no other human has. He was proving He was God as well as man.

Tell the students it is their job to turn the water into wine. Keep pressing them to do this. You are out of wine and guests are waiting. We can pretend or make people think the water becomes wine, but it doesn't and won't. We can shout, jump up and down, run

around, turn flips, and take all sorts of actions, but we can't change water to wine. But Jesus could and did. What He did was a miracle!

2. *Objective: To learn how Jesus called people to be fishers of men and how we can do this important work.*

Have a toy fishing net and several paper fish that you print or cut out of construction paper. Create water with crumpled blue paper or blue cellophane. Also have several Bibles, tracts, a correspondence course, a picture of people taking the Lord's Supper, and a picture of a friend studying the Bible with a friend. Have students be fishers of fish. They cast their net into the water. They wait patiently. They bring in the net without catching any fish. Finally, they cast the net and you put fish in it and the students haul in the catch. Next, have students be fishers of people. They pass out tracts or mail a correspondence course. They invite people to worship with the church. The church tells about Jesus by taking the Lord's Supper. They study the Bible with their friends. Talk about that in these ways we "fish" for people to follow Jesus. We must "cast our net" many times, and sometimes we bring it in without catching any "fish." We must be patient and keep casting. At times, God will give the increase.

3. *Objective: To show how much people need Jesus and how Jesus can help with our worst problem — the problem of sin.*

Use black dot stickers to represent sin. Have items to represent sicknesses and disabilities such as crutches, bandages, a removable cast, and a thermometer. In the classroom, set up a hospital with a few sick people. Other students are well and tend to or visit the sick. On everyone, sick or well, put black dot stickers showing that every person has sin. Talk about the nature of the world into which Jesus came. It was a world of sick, sad, and hurting people — just as the world is today. But the situation was even worse. Everyone had sin, and this is also the case today. Role play the wonderful scene of Jesus healing people. He speaks the word and a person immediately does not need crutches, the bandages come off, etc. But Jesus does something else for everyone. He removes sins by forgiveness. Jesus takes away all black dots!

#### Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

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