

SMALL GROUPS STUDY GUIDE
The Holy Gospel According to Saint John
Lesson #2

- 1) Have someone read Chapter Two and then take time to discuss it.
- 2) Find out where Cana is on a map of the Holy Land.
- 3) Note who was at the wedding.
- 4) What is the role of the Blessed Virgin? Why does Jesus call her “Woman” and not “Mother?” This was not meant to be discourteous. Rather, it could be translated as “Lady” and a sign of respect.
- 5) Jesus then accedes to his Mother’s obvious request that He do something and works His first miracle. Discuss what the intercession of the saints means. Discuss also the motherly care Mary had for the newlyweds. Does she care about us in a similar way?
- 6) Note that whatever Jesus does is on purpose and not by accident or compulsion. That means He worked His first miracle at a wedding on purpose to emphasize how important marriage is in God’s plan for us.
- 7) The cleansing of the Temple (2:13-25).
- 8) Find a diagram of the Temple and locate the court of the Gentiles, the place where the moneychangers and merchants were selling their wares. Look over the rest of the layout of the Temple.
- 9) Money changers were there to change coinage to shekels which did not have images on them and could be used to pay the temple tax.
- 10) Doves are mentioned among the animals sold for sacrifice. They were for poor people who could not afford a lamb.

11) Here is the famous reference to the destruction of the Temple (vs 19). The actual Temple (started by King Herod the Great) had taken 46 years to build. Jesus here makes reference to His body and to His crucifixion and death and resurrection on the third day.