



RUNNING ON EMPTY?

**ENCOUNTERING
THE *OVERFLOWING*
CHRIST**

JOHN 2:1-12

main point

**LET THE CELEBRATION BEGIN, FOR
JESUS HAS ARRIVED TO *TRANSFORM*
OUR FAILING EFFORTS AT
RIGHTEOUSNESS AS HE *PREPARES US*
FOR THE ULTIMATE WEDDING**



EMPTY JARS

WE ARE EMPTY JARS
AND UNABLE TO
QUENCH OUR THIRST



ABUNDANT WINE

2

CHRIST COMES TO
TRANSFORM YOUR FAILED
EFFORTS AND LACK OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS

v5-8

3

NEW WINE

DRINK FROM THE
OVERFLOWING GRACE OF
JESUS AS YOU ARE BEING
PREPARED FOR THE
ULTIMATE MARRIAGE **v9-11**

“Running on Empty?”

John 2:1-12 – *Pastor Josh Gerber*

MAIN POINT: Let the celebration begin, for Jesus has arrived to transform our failing efforts at righteousness as he prepares us for the ultimate wedding.

- 1. Empty jars: We are empty jars and unable to quench our thirst (1-4).**

- 2. Abundant wine: Christ comes to transform your failed efforts and lack of righteousness. (5-8).**

- 3. New wine: Drink from the overflowing grace of Jesus as you are being prepared for the ultimate marriage (9-11).**

Discussion Questions:

1. What is an example of a time in your life in which you realized you had no resources or help to bring to a problem you were facing? How did this realization drive you to Christ?
2. How does the miracle of turning water into wine illustrate the difference between human effort and God's efforts?
3. The "central question for all of us" is, "What will you do with your sin?" Do you agree with this assessment? Why or why not, and how does viewing sin as the main issue change the way you read the story of Jesus in John 2?
4. What specific element of the miracle at Cana (such as Jesus' initial response to his mother, the sheer volume of water/wine, or the quality of the new wine) most clearly demonstrates His unique power and divinity in a way a mere "role model" couldn't?
5. How does the abundance and superior quality of the wine Jesus provides move the focus from the groom's shame and failing effort to a new, overflowing celebration? How can this imagery apply to your own struggles with failure?
6. Why do you think John chose this particular sign (turning water into wine) as the introductory sign to manifest Jesus' glory and trigger the disciples' belief, especially given the connection to the six days of creation?
7. How does this passage prepare you for the ultimate wedding that is to come?