

3-8-26 His Hour: Right on Time... Even When It Feels Early

Week 1

Text: John 2:1-12

Topics: Hour, Revelation, Christ, Faith, Covenant, Miracles, Purpose

Big Idea of the Message: Jesus's miracle at Cana functioned as the inauguration of "His hour." The beginning of the public unveiling of who He is, why He came, and where this story is headed: the cross.

Application Point: God works miracles in our lives for the dual purpose of bringing glory to Christ and strengthening our faith in the Lord.

Introduction:

Every wedding has a crisis.

- Someone forgets the rings.
- Someone stumbles walking down the aisle.
- Someone drinks too much punch.
- Sometimes the officiant can't make it. (give the 2 examples that happened to me)

But at the wedding we will be looking at today? They ran out of wine.

That's not awkward, that's a social disaster.

And right when the pressure hits... Jesus says something shocking: **"My hour has not yet come."**

Which raises the question: If His hour hasn't come..., why does He act anyway?

Because grace doesn't wait for perfect timing; it moves when faith steps forward.

I. **"My Hour Has Not Yet Come" - But the Clock Is Ticking**

- **Read John 2:1-4**
- Jesus's words to Mary sound almost cold at first glance:
- **"Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."**
- The Greek word for hour is *hōra* (ώρα)
- It doesn't just mean time, it means appointed moment, divinely fixed event.

John uses this word like a breadcrumb trail through the Gospel:

- Not yet... **(John 2)**

- **“My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.”** Approaching... (John 7:6)
- **“The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.”** Now here... (John 12:23)
- **“Father, the hour has come.”** Fully arrived... (John 17:1–19)

Jesus isn't saying “no.” He's saying, “Not fully... but it's starting.”

Mary cannot summon Him as her son. She must trust Him as her Savior.

This miracle is not about fixing a party problem. It's about introducing a Person.

Application:

Faith matures when we learn to trust God's timing, not manipulate it.

The cross is not an interruption, it's the destination.

II. Faith Doesn't Need the Details - Just the Direction (v. 5)

- **Read verse 5**
- Obedience is the language of faith; obedience is what God desires and looks for from us.
- There is no way to build faith without obedience and without faith it is impossible to please God.
- God doesn't want you to try and please Him in your own way. He wants you to please Him with your all-in, blind, faith like a child, faith.
- Mary's response is one of the most underrated faith statements in Scripture: **“Whatever He says to you, do it.”**
- These are Mary's last recorded words in scripture.
- She doesn't: Argue, demand, explain or micromanage the miracle; she simply trusts. She doesn't point to herself; she points to Him.
- Faith in the gospel is not intellectual agreement... it's responsive trust.
- The servants obey what Jesus says without explanation, and without knowing the results.

Application:

Some of us won't obey until God gives us:

- the outcome
- the timeline
- the explanation

Mary teaches us something uncomfortable but inspiring: Faith obeys before it understands.

You don't have to understand everything Jesus says... you just must do the next thing He tells you.

Obedience doesn't require full understanding, just surrender. You don't grow into obedience. You obey into growth. (give examples of giving, leaving Florida)

III. From Water to Wine - From Religion to Redemption

- **Read verses 6-10**
- John tells us the water jars were used for Jewish purification rites.
- Symbolism you can't ignore:
- Stone: ceremonial purity
- Six: number of incompletions
- Water: Old Covenant (external cleansing)
- Wine: New Covenant (internal transformation)
- The Law could cleanse externally, but it could never complete internally.

Hebrews 8:13, When God speaks of a "new" covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and will soon disappear.

- Jesus doesn't top off the water. He transforms it.
- In the Old Testament, wine often symbolized: joy (**Psalm 104:15**), blessing, abundance.
- Jesus is quietly saying: "What the Law could only point to... I now fulfill."

Illustration:

The Law is like a typewriter... groundbreaking once, but obsolete now.

Grace is the laptop, tablets, Mac books. Faster. Deeper. Portable. Personal.

No one has ever been saved by keeping rules. Salvation has always been by grace through faith.

IV. Miracles Are Messages, Not Magic Tricks (v. 11)

- **Read verse 11.**
- Jesus doesn't just fix problems... He reveals who God is
- John tells us why this miracle happened: **"He revealed His glory, and His disciples believed in Him."**

Two purposes—no exceptions:

1. Glory to Christ

2. Growth in faith

This miracle:

- Was private, not public
- Benefited others, not Jesus
- Produced faith, not applause

God doesn't do miracles just to impress people... He does them to point people to His Son.

D.A. Carson writes that signs in John are meant to move people from curiosity to commitment.

Application:

1. Trust God's Timing — Even When It Disrupts Yours

- Jesus said, **"My hour has not yet come."**
- God's delays are not denials. They are divine alignment.
- Stop demanding immediate answers.
- Stop interpreting delay as abandonment.
- Pray this week: "Lord, align my timing with Yours."
- Where are you frustrated because God hasn't moved "yet"?
- Faith grows when we learn to trust: His clock, His wisdom, His process

2. Obey Before You Understand

- Mary said, **"Whatever He says to you, do it."**
- The servants filled jars with water—not knowing what Jesus would do next.
- They didn't argue. They didn't negotiate. They obeyed.
- Identify one clear thing Jesus has already told you to do:
- Forgive someone? Confess something? Serve somewhere? Share your faith?
- Stop waiting for full clarity. Take the next obedient step.

3. Stop Settling for Water When Jesus Offers Wine

- The water jars symbolized ritual religion.
- Jesus replaced it with something better.
- Religion washes the outside. Jesus transforms the inside.
- Am I going through motions? Am I relying on habits instead of heart change?

4. Recognize That Your Crisis May Be a Setup for Glory

- They ran out of wine. Embarrassment turned into revelation.
- What felt like disaster became the stage for divine display.
- Reframe your current struggle: Instead of asking, “Why is this happening?” Ask, “How might God reveal Himself through this?”
- It might be the doorway to dependence, the birthplace of deeper faith, or the platform for testimony.

5. Let God’s Work in You Strengthen Others

- John tells us the miracle had two purposes: Reveal Jesus’ glory. Strengthen belief.
- When God moves in your life, it’s not private property.
- Share one testimony this week: A prayer God answered. A struggle God carried you through. A truth that changed you.
- Your story may strengthen someone else’s faith.

6. Believe That Jesus Saves the Best for Last

- The master of the feast said: “You have kept the good wine until now.”
- The Gospel pattern: The cross looked like loss. The tomb looked like finality. The resurrection proved otherwise.
- If you’re in a season that feels empty, hold on.
- God’s pattern is improvement, not regression.
- The best is not behind the believer—it’s ahead.
- Don’t quit five minutes before the miracle.

God’s work in your life is never just about you. Your testimony is meant to: point upward, strengthen others, and glorify Christ.

If God has ever: rescued you, healed you, restored you, and or carried you; that wasn’t just for your relief, it was for His reputation.

Closing: “The Best Is Still Coming”

Jesus doesn’t just supply wine; He supplies better wine.

The master of the feast says: “You’ve saved the best for last.”

That’s the Gospel in one sentence. The beginning is grace. The middle is growth and the end is glory.

Religion says: “Try harder first.”

Jesus says: “Trust Me and watch what I bring last.”

The cross looked like defeat. The tomb looked final.

But resurrection proved: God always saves the best for last.

The cross is not a detour it was the destination.

Invitation: Some of you are still standing by empty jars:

- empty faith
- empty religion
- empty routines

Jesus is here and His hour is moving toward you.

Jesus didn't come to refill religion. He came to replace it with life.

You don't need better water. You need new wine.

Today, don't just admire the miracle... believe in the Miracle-Worker.

And like Mary said...**do whatever He tells you.**

Because when Jesus steps into the moment, even the ordinary becomes eternal.

Prayer