

JESUS CELEBRATES



Theme/Value

Joy

Notes:

Game
Appendix B

So many things to celebrate
Musical statues to Feels Good - Rend Co Kids **!**

Story

Ref: John 2:1-11
Wedding at Cana - See Appendix A

- Pupil response
- Plan the best party together
- What happens with food/drink at parties
- Why Jesus turned water into wine
- The joy and celebration in our lives
- Jesus delighting in our joy
- Joining in with Jesus

Reflection
Appendix B

It's Jesus, who is He to you?

Drinks wine, parties, helps, performs miracles..?

Song suggestion

I wanna be a Tree

Prayer

Thank you God for the places we go to for celebrations. *Woooooah*
Thank you God for dancing and games and other ways to have fun. *Woooooah*
Thank you God for the food and drink we have everyday and at special occasions. For cakes and burgers! *Woaaaaahhh*
Thank you God for the people we celebrate and party with. *Woooooah*
Thank you God for celebrating with us. *Woaaaahhh its party time!*
Amen

Equipment

Jug & red food colouring
Speaker (if there is no sound system at the school)

Suggested Entry Music

Celebrate
- Kool and the Gang



Appendix A: Story

Picture this. There was a wedding and everybody had been very busy with preparations, fresh bread had been baked, new clothes had been sewn, the most delicious food and most expensive wines had been bought ready for the celebration.

Imagine you are getting married at the time when Jesus was around. I don't know about you but I'd totally invite Him, and that's what this couple did and he didn't just have a plus one, He had a plus 12! All the disciples and his mum were there. Jesus loved celebrating with people, spending time with friends and joining in the joy and happiness of life and this is a classic example of that.

Back then you would always bring the good food and drink out first and then the more people ate and drank the less they would notice so then you would bring the not so good food out. Like being promised the most delicious burger... and then slipping in some sandwiches that fell on the floor when no-ones looking.

This was the case at this wedding except they got through the good wine, then not so good wine, and then there was nothing left. The servants were panicking. It was like all the air had come out of a bouncy castle or the birthday cake had been eaten before the birthday girl blew out the candles.

From her seat at the table Mary could hear a whispered conversation between two servants.

"What's the problem," Mary asked them.

"It's the wine," one of the servants said, "we've run out!"

"Let me fetch my son," Mary said, "he will help you?"

"Who is your son? Is he a wine merchant?" the second servant asked.

"No, it's Jesus," Mary explained as she beckoned Jesus over, "he will know what to do."

Now, what Jesus said next might shock you. He said - "Woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come." Knowing Jesus was the Son of God Mary probably thought 'Jesus is doing that thing again where he's going to do something great but hasn't revealed it yet' so all she did was turn to the servants and say "do whatever he tells you".

The servants turned to Jesus who said "take those empty jars that are used for washing and fill them with water then pour it into a cup and give it to the master of the banquet".

The servants looked at one another, they were still worried and a bit confused.

"It's just water," they said, "isn't it?"

"We have to do something." the first servant said taking hold of a glass and filling it.

Food colouring trick.

The master took a sip.

"Delicious," the master said smacking his lips together, this is the best wine I have ever tasted."

Waving at the groom the master of the feast called out again, "This is the best wine I have ever tasted.

Normally everyone serves the good wine first, but you have saved the best wine till now."

The servants just stared in amazement, Jesus had performed a miracle, the water was now wine! "Who is that man?" they asked one another, "what will he do next?"



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Ref: John 2:1-11

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Appendix B: Reflection

Game: Matching Pairs

I always like finding things to celebrate. Getting excited and happy about so many things in life. I think we should celebrate today right now with a game.

Explain how to play musical statues and make it clear that they should just dance on the spot.

If we catch you moving then you will be given a splat point. You've got to get through the game with as little splat points as possible. Please remember the 3 b's - no bobbling, no blinking, no breathing. Sound good? Lets go!

TIP: In the pauses try and tease them or tempt them to move.

Notes:

Reflection

Qs: Why don't you take a minute to think about how it would have felt to be at that wedding. As a guest or even as a servant who has run out of food and drink to serve. How would you have felt? What would you be thinking?

I want to know what the sign of a good party is for you. I thought we could plan it together so what do people want for: theme, dress code, flavour of cake, location, anything else?

I've been to a few parties in my time. Some of my favourite parties are weddings! A birthday party might be 2 hours long. Adults often get parties that are 4 or 5 hours long! Weddings go for 8-10 hours!

In Jesus' time a wedding party would go for an entire Week!!

Somethings haven't changed in thousands of years. Food and drink was a really important part of the party. I think without exception, every wedding I've been to you get give a nice bubbly as your first drink, and then after that you're on your own - its cheaper stuff or you're buying.

Same thing 2 thousand years ago, hosts would bring out the good stuff, and then, when they hoped no-one noticed, the less good stuff. Like sneaking in some sandwiches that fell on the floor.

Back then, clean water wasn't always available - it was mostly used for washing. I don't think Jesus didn't turn water into wine because he was somehow saving them from an upset tummy and I don't think that Jesus was particularly all about making great wine for himself either. I think Jesus just really wants to have a good time and share happy moments with his friends and family and that says a lot about who he is. The first miracle Jesus wants to do is one that makes sure everyone had a good time.

He knows these people. He knows whats going on in their lives; the good stuff and the really hard stuff. All their struggles and disappointments so he made sure that in this moment, they had fun. Thousands of years later we can do the same. Celebrate with our friends and families all the wonderful and exciting things in our lives, milestones and achievements. Most parties aren't about every single person in the room but the whole room celebrating one person or a few people. So remember, even when it looks like things might be tough, there is joy to be had when we lift each other up and celebrate with them.

At that wedding Jesus did an incredible thing, and all the guest had to do is drink and celebrate. The same is true today, we can join Jesus in our celebrating too. We can do it right now with a song...



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