

Hi there, everyone!

Time for another JAM-at-Home email! Yay, it is summer at last – and lots of people are getting married! Have you ever been to a wedding? Did you have to dress up in special clothes? Did you go to a party afterwards? Was there lots of food and drink at the party?



Well, in this JAM we are going to think about a wedding that Jesus went to, where things went a bit wrong! Weddings then were a bit different to weddings now. The wedding party sometimes went on for several days!

Watch this film to see what happened when Jesus went to a wedding in a place called Cana.....

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pIJa\\_qnVug](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pIJa_qnVug)

The Wedding at Cana might seem like an unusual story to choose for JAM at the moment, when weddings and other special celebrations have had to be small or cancelled for over a year now. Lots of us maybe wish we were able to celebrate all those missed occasions with family and friends. Jesus' miracle of turning water into wine reminds us of his love for people and that by his power, he can turn ordinary things into something amazing..... and surely that is worth remembering at the moment!

Here are some ideas of things you might like to do which remind us of this story .....

### **Wedding hats**

You will need: newspapers; masking tape; decorations such as: tissue paper, feathers, pompoms, etc.; double-sided tape or glue; scissors



Create a hat from three sheets of newspaper (broadsheets create a larger hat) spread evenly over someone's head. Splay the edges, overlapping, to cover the circumference of the head. Press down on the head, moulding, creasing and scrunching the newspaper to make the head shape. Using masking tape, secure a head band around the crown of the head. Either remove the hat from the head or continue on the head and roll up the brim around the hat. Decorate.

*Talk about* how we join in with the celebration of a marriage by dressing up in clothes that make us feel special on the day, whether as bride, bridegroom or guest. In Jesus' time, the bridegroom would have worn particularly splendid clothing. A hat is a popular wedding accessory. I wonder what would Jesus and other guests have worn at the wedding at Cana.

## **Taste Test**

Blindfold everyone who is going to do the tasting; then give them different drinks. You could include different fruit juices or squash. Can they guess what flavour they are? It's also fun to do this with crisps or even fruit sweets/wine gums/jelly babies but maybe more difficult!

*Think about* how, in the Bible, wine is associated with joy and happy times. As Jesus turned the water into wine at the wedding, his first miracle, we remember how Jesus shows his love for each of us, forever and ever.

## **Water Relay race**

It would be a good idea to do this outside! Put a large bucket of water at one end of the racecourse and smaller buckets at the other end – one for each person racing. Give each person a smaller cup or jug. Have a race to see who can fill their small bucket with water from the large bucket the fastest!

*Remember* how the wine ran out at the wedding of Cana. It would have been very embarrassing for the host family. Jesus told the servants what they had to do....they had to fill six very, very large jars with water, so they filled them to the top. To do this, they will have needed to fill many buckets of water. Then Jesus asked them to take the water to the master, which they did. When the master tasted it, the water had become wine. Wow!

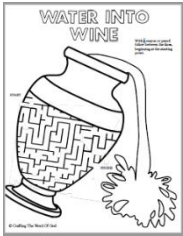
## **Special meal**

It may not be possible to invite all our friends and family to a party at the moment, but that doesn't mean we can't have a special meal with the people in our household. Can you organise a special family meal this week? It could be breakfast, lunch or dinner. How could you make it different from any ordinary meal?

## **Bubble prayers**

You will need: bubble mixture; blowers

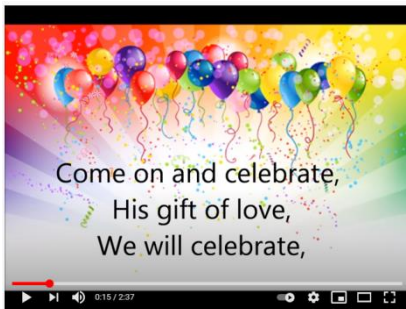
Ideally, do this outside. Sometimes people have bubbles at weddings. Take it in turns to blow bubbles and invite everyone to 'spot' or watch one particular bubble until it disappears from view. At that moment, invite them to say a silent prayer – it might be to thank God for all the good things He gives us. Thank Him for food and drink and thank Him for your friends and family. You might also want to pray that all the lockdown restrictions will end very soon so that we can celebrate with friends and family again!



There is a **maze** here for you to follow

<https://craftingthewordofgod.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/water-to-wine-puzzle.pdf>

We would love to see photos of the things that you have made. You could send them to Rev Sian by email and then maybe she could put some of them on the church website or Facebook pages! If you include yourself in the photo, please get your parent or carer to give us permission to use the photo on social media! [revsianlawton@gmail.com](mailto:revsianlawton@gmail.com)



Here is a worship song which you might like to listen to and join in with – it is all about celebrating!

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kog4QkDT4Ho](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kog4QkDT4Ho)

And now, let's finish with a thank you prayer and our special JAM prayer

Thank you, God, for all the good things you give us – for food and drink, for our families and friends.

We pray for all those people having special celebrations and getting married this summer that, even if the day is not quite as they had planned, they will still have a lovely time.

May God bless ME (point to yourself),

God bless YOU (point to other people),

God bless EVERYONE (open your arms out wide),

Have a great summer and we hope to see you next term! Love from all the JAM Team

With thanks to [messychurch.org.uk](http://messychurch.org.uk) for some of these ideas!