The One Jesus Loves: A Journey Through John's Gospel

Loved & Transformed
Pastor Jimmy Witcher
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The One Jesus Loves: Loved & Transformed

John 20:31 (NLT)

These are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

The Sign: Water into Wine – Jesus Transforms the Empty into Full

John 2:1-10 (NLT)

The next day, there was a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Standing nearby were six stone water jars, used for Jewish ceremonial washing. Each could hold twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." When the jars had been filled, he said, "Now dip some out, and take it to the master of ceremonies." So the servants followed his instructions.

When the master of ceremonies tasted the water that was now wine, not knowing where it had come from (though, of course, the servants knew), he called the bridegroom over. "A host always serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone has had a lot to drink, he brings out the less expensive wine. But you have kept the best until now!"

1. Are you trying to fill your life with things that don't satisfy? Or will you let Jesus fill you with His love and transform you?

The "I Am" Statement: "I Am the Bread of Life" – Jesus Transforms Our Hunger into Fulfillment

John 6:35-40 (NLT)

Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But you haven't believed in me even though you have seen me. However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

John 7:37–38 (NLT)

On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'"

2. What are you relying on to fulfill your spiritual hunger? Is it personal achievements, relationships, entertainment, or is it Jesus?

The Discourse: "You Must Be Born Again" – Jesus Transforms the Dead into New Life

John 3:1–8 (NLT)

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born

of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

John 3:13-15 (NLT)

No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven. And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

3. Have you experienced the new birth that comes through faith in Jesus? Or are you still trying to change yourself instead of letting Him transform you?

You are the one Jesus loves, and He wants to transform you by His love:

- 1. Jesus loves you too much to leave you empty—He transforms you into fullness.
- 2. Jesus loves you too much to leave you hungry—He offers Himself as the Bread of Life, satisfying your deepest longings.
- 3. Jesus loves you too much to leave you spiritually dead—He gives you new life.