

Session Four: Lessons of the Wedding at Cana

Opening Prayer

Re-cap:

- Jesus is: the fulfiller, the purifier, the bringer of abundance, the bridegroom, the Word that has power.
- His mother is pivotal in the story
- It is faith and obedience that he is seeking.

Reflections on the themes for us today

In life, the wine runs out. This is the inadequacy of our merely earthly systems and ideas.

His word is to be obeyed.

The model of obedience: the Mother of God. The servants in this story.

- We need to find ourselves in the same position in life.

The Mother of God knows our needs and offers direction.

Marriage between a man and a woman is at the heart of God's plan for the world.

- God's way of relating to us is spousal and is a communion of complements and differences.
- The image of the Messiah as the Bridegroom is not an accident and it is not open to adaptation.
- His presence at a wedding links earthly marriage between one man and one woman to the critical symbolism of creation that points the world to God who is also our spouse.
- Marriage rightly understood and lived is a sign, a symbol, that makes God manifest.
- As we attempt to alter marriage and gender, we directly undermine a key pathway of God's entry into the world.
- We fail to listen to his word, fail to be his servants, and we fail to allow for the wine of grace.

Jesus brings the better wine. To us, to the world: when we realize our own efforts have come up empty, we have only to turn to his Word, to his mother, to the sacraments. He comes to our rescue.

End of Session Four