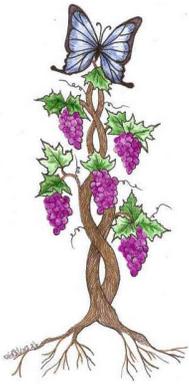


*Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way*



January 20, 2019

Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

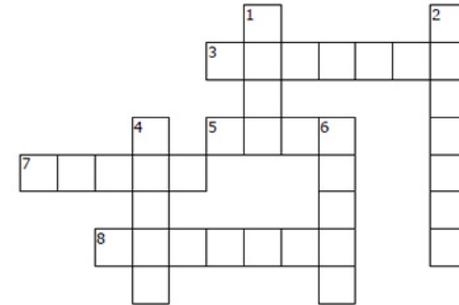


*Second Sunday after Epiphany*

I thought it would be fun to take our Bible lesson today and re-write it as if I were a reporter writing an article in a daily newspaper. The story is actually from the gospel of John, but the word gospel means "good news," so let's imagine that we are reading an article from the "Daily Galilean" or perhaps "The Jerusalem Times." Wow! Listen to this headline! "Wedding guest turns water into wine." Hmm...That sounds interesting. Let's read the rest of the story! On Tuesday, a woman named Mary was in Cana to attend a wedding. A large number of guests, including her son, a man named Jesus, also attended the wedding. Guests at the wedding were reportedly having a good time until the host ran out of wine. At that point, it seemed that the happy celebration might turn into a disaster. Some of the wedding guests thought that perhaps Jesus might have a solution to the problem, so they reported to him that they were out of wine. When told about the problem, Jesus at first seemed unwilling to do anything, but after some encouragement from his mother, he finally agreed to help. Eye witnesses at the wedding reported that Jesus noticed several large water jars nearby and instructed some servants to fill them with water. After the jars had been filled with water, he told them to dip some of the water out of the jars and take it to the man who was in charge of serving the wine. When the wine steward tasted the water, he discovered that the water had been turned into wine. Wedding guests were amazed at the turn of events and said that the wine was the best that they had ever tasted. As a result of this miraculous event, many people are following Jesus everywhere he goes, and many believe that he might even be the long-awaited Messiah. Well, that made a pretty good news story, didn't it? Just as Jesus performed a miracle by changing the water into wine at the wedding celebration two thousand years ago, he is still working miracles in the hearts and lives of people today.

Dear Jesus, worker of miracles, work a miracle in us today. Amen.

*Crossword Puzzle*



ACROSS

- 3. An event that cannot be explained by the laws of nature
- 5. Of the highest quality; One that surpasses all others
- 7. Low in cost; of poor quality; inferior
- 8. One who is employed to perform services for someone else

DOWN

- 1. A beverage made of the fermented juice of grapes
- 2. A ceremony joining a man and woman as husband and wife
- 4. A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid, H<sub>2</sub>O
- 6. To eat or drink a small amount

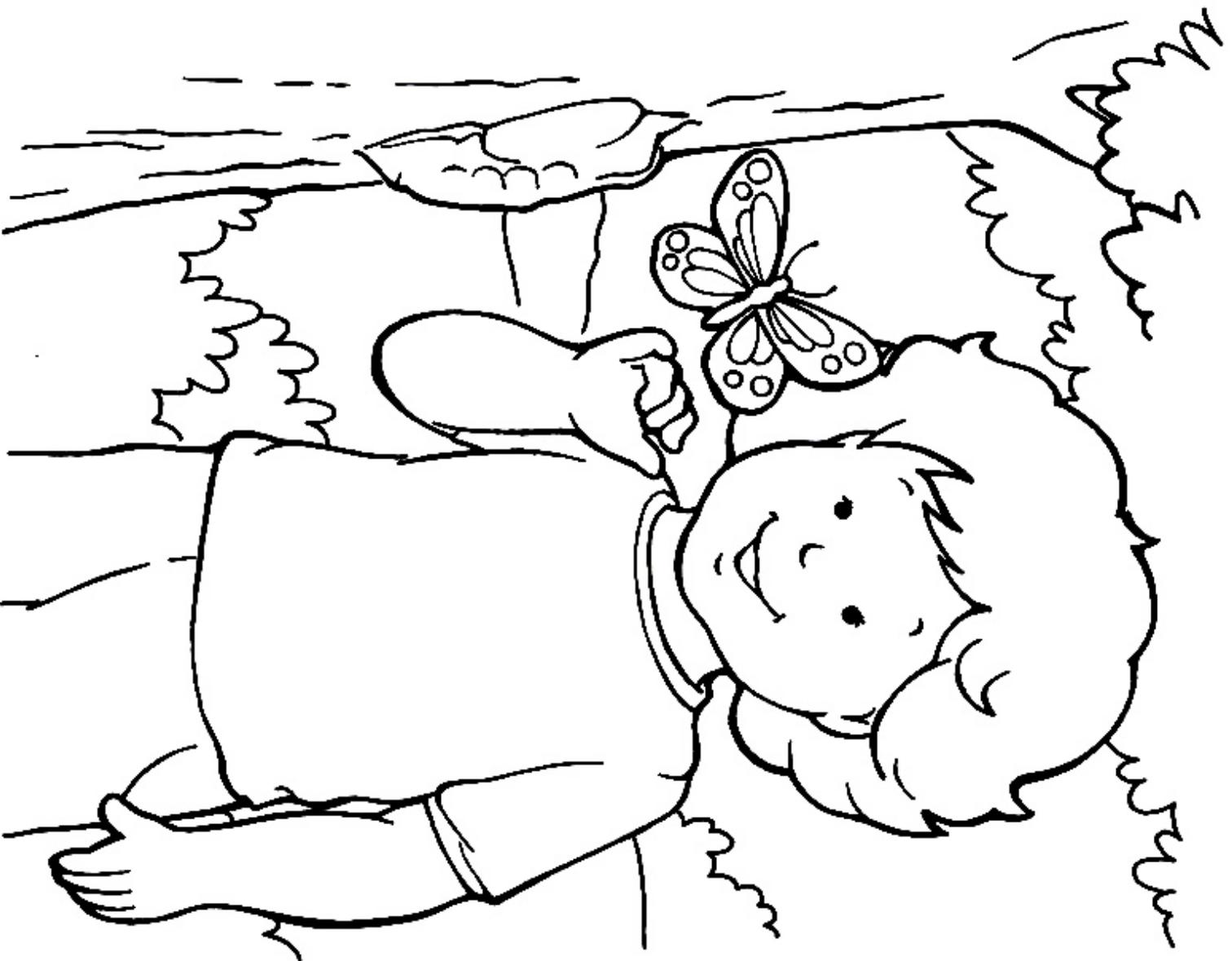
TASTE	SERVANT	WATER	MIRACLE
WEDDING	BEST	WINE	CHEAP

**Activity:** Provide supplies for children to make a bookmark with words from today's lesson -- such as faith, believe, Jesus, miracles, etc.

**Discussion Question:** Miracles happen every day. They are not always as extraordinary as turning water into wine. Consider the bumblebee. Science would tell us that its wings are too heavy for the small bee to take flight, yet it still happens. What other miracles can you find in your everyday life?

**Family Table Prayer for January:** Thank you God for all things new. For the morning and night time, too. Thank you for this food so yummy and the healthy ways you fill our tummy. Amen.

**January Memory Verse:** Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.



Jesus is special. He can do miracles.