



Week 1 | Believe | January 7

Opening Up:

- Do you set new year's resolutions? Why or Why not? How has that gone for you?
- When you look back on 2017:
 - What was good?
 - What was hard?
 - What needs to change in 2018?
- If you could change or do something new in 2018 that would help you to love someone (or a group of people) better, what would you do?
- How can a Community Group help promote positive God honoring life change?

Reference: John 2:1-11

Discuss:

1. A.W. Tozer says that we tend to gravitate toward our mental image of God. What are some mental images of God that you have had in your life? How have those images changed? Is there an image that sticks out to you as a dominant theme?
2. How does the image of Jesus turning water into wine at a party fit into your views about the nature of God?
3. How does Isaiah 25:6-8 and the scene in John 2:1-11 affect your view of heaven?
4. When Mary laid her need before Jesus she did not bring any possible solution, she just brought the need. (John 2:3) When you pray do you feel a burden to dictate an answer to your prayers to God? Does being able to just tell God the need free you in prayer? (Is there a need the group can lay before God on your behalf?)
5. Jesus sees himself as the ultimate bridegroom. John the Baptist saw himself as a groomsman in Jesus' wedding. (John 3:29-30) God stretches the use of language and metaphor to help us to understand our relationship to him.
 1. We relate to God as a . . .
 - i. King to his subjects
 - ii. Shepherd to his sheep
 - iii. Father to his children
 - iv. Husband to his wife
 2. Is it easier or harder for you to relate to God in any of these relationships? Why? Do life circumstances make any of these relationships with God more difficult?
6. The wedding of Jesus to his church is certainly on the mind of Jesus. This shows the level intimacy and depth of relationship that God desires with you. How would you describe what it is like to have a personal relationship with God?
7. Pray