Seven Signs

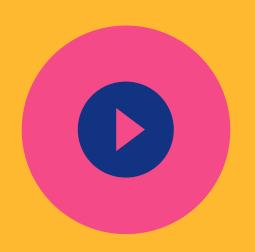
The Meaning Behind The Miracles

Week #1: Wine & Words



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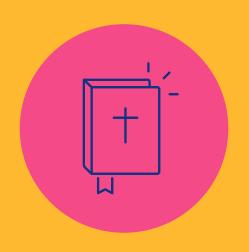
How To Lead Your YCI Club



Play a game together.



Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.



Learn from Scripture about who God says He is and how we should respond to Him.



Go

Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.







STATUES IN THE GARDEN

First, one person should be chosen as the "Gardener", and the rest of the YCI club will be "Statues". The Gardener will stand at the front of the room, face the wall and proceed to count down from 30. During the countdown, the rest of the group (the Statues) will choose a random pose that they can hold for an extended period of time. At the end of the countdown, the Gardener should start walking among the Statues. When the Gardener is turned the other way, the Statues should quickly change the pose they are in (the Statues are not allowed to hold the same pose the whole time). If the Gardener sees you move, you are out of the game. The last person standing is the winner!



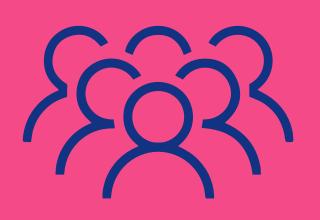


Ask God For His Will To Be Done In These Areas:



CLUB TIME

Pray that God will speak to everyone in the room through His Word.



GROUP NEEDS

Take time to discuss and pray over the personal needs and requests of those in attendance.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Ask God to move in situations that are unique to your school and community.



Grow: Learn

What Is A Sign?

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John record the life and ministry of Jesus. Each book contains incredible accounts of miracles performed through Him, but the Gospel of John does so in a way that is particularly unique.

As outlined in "The Source: Trusting The Great I Am For Everything I Need" (YCI Curriculum), Jesus makes seven "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. Each of these declarations point to a distinct aspect of His character. Continuing with the theme of "seven", the Gospel of John also records seven miracles that are designed to answer three questions:

- 1) What distinguishes Jesus as God?
 - 2) Why did Jesus come to earth?
- 3) How does Jesus meet needs today?

The seven signs culminate in a miracle that radically altered the course of human history (Jesus' resurrection). Each week, the goal of the "grow" portion of this curriculum is to analyze each sign through the lens of the three questions outlined above. Prayerfully, in doing so, we will experience deeper love, gratitude and faith in the person of Jesus Christ.



Grow: Read

The Sign Of Wine

John 2:1-11 (ESV)

"1 On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. 3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. 9 When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him."

Grow: Read

The Sign Of Words

John 4:46-54 (ESV)

"46 So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48 So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." 49 The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." 50 Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. **51** As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. **52** So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. 54 This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee."



The Meaning Of The Miracles

1) What distinguishes Jesus as God?

Sign Of Wine: When the wine ran out, the wedding guests thought they were out of options. However, Jesus reveals that He is all-powerful over creation by transforming the very essence of water into wine.

Sign Of Words: Not only can Jesus do the impossible, but He is not bound by space and time. He is the Word (Jn. 1:1), and He holds space and time in His hands.

2) Why did Jesus come to earth?

Sign Of Wine: Jesus met us at our point of need (no more wine). Through His life, death and resurrection, He purchased for us a relationship with our heavenly Father that is far better than what we had before (saving the best wine for last).

Sign Of Words: Just like the official's son, we are dead without Jesus. However, His words reverberate through time and space and infuse life into our bodies.

3) How does Jesus meet needs today?

Sign Of Wine: When we are lacking something we need, we are in the perfect position for God to provide. When we surrender our weaknesses to Him, Jesus meets us where we are, works with what we have and He makes it better than before.

Sign Of Words: There is power in prayer. When we are facing difficult situations, Jesus can initiate real change even though He is not physically present with us.



Grow: Discuss

Let's Talk About This

(Small Group Questions If Time Allows)

1) What is one thing that "jumped out" to you while reading about these miracles? What did you learn about the heart and character of Jesus?

2) What is an area of need you are facing right now? How do the "signs" we learned about today give you hope in the midst of the obstacles you are facing?

3) As a YCI club, what are some creative things we can do to show people that Jesus is the fulfillment of everything they need?



Consider This Before You Leave:



Big Idea

The seven signs in the Gospel of John answer questions about Jesus' identity as God, His purpose in coming to earth and how He meets needs today. The signs of wine and words reveal that Jesus is all-powerful over creation, and He is not bound by time and space.



Sharing Truth Who is someone in your life that needs to hear about what we discussed today? Pray for them, and find time this week to encourage them.



Meeting Needs What is something your YCI club can do to show God's love this semester?



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