

## Rebuilding a relationship when everything goes wrong...

(John 2:1-11)

1 The next day Jesus' mother was a guest at a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. 2 Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. 3 The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother spoke to him about the problem. "They have no more wine," she told him. 4 "How does that concern you and me?" Jesus asked. "My time has not yet come." 5 But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Six stone waterpots were standing there; they were used for Jewish ceremonial purposes and held twenty to thirty gallons each. 7 Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." When the jars had been filled to the brim, 8 he said, "Dip some out and take it to the master of ceremonies." So they followed his instructions. 9 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. 10 "Usually a host serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone is full and doesn't care, he brings out the less expensive wines. But you have kept the best until now!" 11 This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was Jesus' first display of his glory. And his disciples believed in him (John 2:1-11 – NLT).

Ways to build solid marriage foundations even after a bad start...or a tough time!

- v. 1-3 - Invite Jesus into your relationships and plans
- v. 4-5 - Allow Jesus to do whatever needs to be done to resolve the real need
- v. 6-8 - Give Jesus what you have - even if it seems useless and dirty
- v. 9-10 - Do things the Jesus way (9-10)
  1. Forgive... and love (NOT forgive and forget)  
Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you (Ephesians 4:32 – NLT).
  2. Be faithful - keep your commitments (develop new relational priorities)  
Give honor to marriage, and remain faithful to one another in marriage. God will surely judge people who are immoral and those who commit adultery (Hebrews 13:4 – NLT).  
This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one (Genesis 2:24 – NLT).
  3. Serve and bless each other - think before you speak  
Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it (1 Peter 3:9 - NLT).  
Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them (Ephesians 4:29 – NLT).  
Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other (Romans 12:10 – NLT).
  4. Dream together about your future together  
For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11 – NLT).

5. **Don't give up... and find ways to start over when needed!**  
So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time (Galatians 6:9 – NLT).
  
6. **Be gentle with each others wounds - reflect the touch of Jesus**  
When they arrived at Bethsaida, some people brought a blind man to Jesus, and they begged him to touch and heal the man (Mark 8:22 – NLT)  
As the sun went down that evening, people throughout the village brought sick family members to Jesus. No matter what their diseases were, the touch of his hand healed every one (Luke 4:40 – NLT).
  
7. **Be a real companion... and have fun together**  
And the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him (Genesis 2:18 – NLT)."

What if it seems like it is too late to rebuild?

1. God can heal you from the consequences of sin (John 3:14; Numbers 21:4-9)
2. God's intention is to save, not condemn (John 3:17; John 8:3-12)
3. Our brokenness does not disqualify us before God (Psalm 51:17)
4. God will give us a way...

REMEMBER: The best is yet to come (John 2:10)