



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Honouring your Family

SPEAKER SP Chua Seng Lee

THEME The Culture of Honour

DATE 22 January 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This week's message is centred around the Wedding of Cana in Galilee where Jesus honoured His mother's request and performed His first miracle by turning water to wine for the bridegroom (John 2:1-10). SP Chua also reminded us that Mary's response to the need for wine at the wedding reflected her sensitivity to the issue. She also sought Jesus first to resolve the problem. Through this, she exemplified the posture that we should adopt when we submit our needs to God.

PRINCIPLES FOR HONOURING YOUR FAMILY

The word "honour" as defined in the Webster dictionary is to "give special recognition to". At the wedding, Mary saw the need in the situation - the bridegroom had no more wine for the wedding. She immediately brought this need to Jesus. In honouring her request, Jesus fulfilled her request by turning water into wine. In honouring our family, we need to be:

1. Sensitive to the needs of our family and extended family

Be aware of the needs of our family members and other people around us during this festive season. For example, there are a lot of lonely people who yearn to be with their family during this time but are not able to such as the migrant workers or people who are dealing with stress and mental issues. How aware are we of their needs and what are we doing to journey alongside them during this time?

2. Surrender their needs to God via prayer

Mary brought the need of the hour to Jesus. She knew what Jesus was capable of doing and thus, she surrendered the issue to Jesus. This shows us that it is important for us to surrender the needs of others to God through prayer; we are called to be Priests and Kings for God's people.

3. Submit to God and His instructions

We should remember that we are not to solve our problems using our own strength but instead recognize the abundance of our God who can turn something ordinary into something extraordinary. The comment that Mary made to the servants to do whatever Jesus said to them showed her submission to Jesus after surrendering the needs to Him. She knew and trusted that Jesus would take care of the situation.

Likewise, in our walk with God, we must obey His prompting especially when we have been made aware of the needs of others. We are to surrender those needs to God in prayer and trust that God will answer according to His plan, timing and grace.

SP Chua gave the example of how we should we should not be afraid to respond when prompted to speak to someone about salvation. There are numerous sources that we can tap on to have that conversation. The key is to obey the prompting, surrender the conversation to God and submit to God knowing that He will take care of the rest.

This miracle was seen and experienced by a selected group of people at the wedding. The wedding also provides us with a glimpse of the Messianic Banquet (Isaiah 25:6) where we, as God's people, will enjoy a banquet with Jesus who is the Bridegroom and the Provider of our earthly and spiritual needs. It will also be an eternal banquet without death and tears.

CONCLUSION

In order to honour our family, we need to be sensitive to the needs of our family and extended family. While the awareness may take different forms, the act of surrendering those needs to God through prayer should be our first step as God is the Provider of all our needs. We should trust that God, in His perfect wisdom, will answer according to His plans.

QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time whereby you noticed someone in need. What did you do in that situation? What was the outcome?

2. Evaluate how you as a person in need, was helped by others? Identify the ways in which the brother or sister has helped you in that situation and describe the impact that it has made in your life.

3. We may sometimes forget that there are others in our family or outside who are going through difficulties need help. How do we become more sensitive to the needs of others? Is there someone that God is drawing your attention to?