


Chris Oyakhilome



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**Great Miracles of the Bible** is a collection of three inspiring illustrated stories from the Bible, which narrate God's divine intervention in the affairs of men. These stories will inspire children to have faith in God and in the miraculous for today as it was in Bible days.

At the end of each story are discussion pages tagged, **"TalkSheet"**. This will help strengthen what the children will learn in each story, building in them the principles of the Christian faith.

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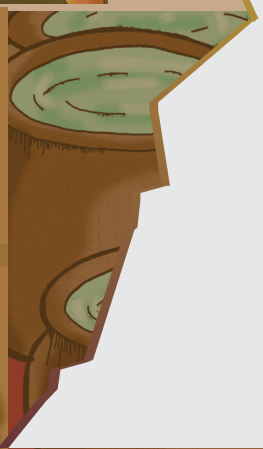












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# THE MIRACLE OF PROVISION

2 Kings 6: 24- 7: 1-20

## *Introduction*

During the time of Prophet Elisha, there was war between Syria and Israel. The Syrian army surrounded Samaria, the capital of Israel. They were ready to destroy it. Within the City of Samaria was a ravaging famine. The famine was so severe that there was no food, and the people became very hungry.

It was a harsh situation in Samaria. The People of Samaria really needed a miracle or soon they would all die of hunger or be destroyed by the impending war.

Find out how God delivered His people from the death of famine and war in this exciting story, "The Miracle of Provision".

# The Miracle of Provision

The City of Samaria was surrounded by the Syrians, who wanted to destroy the Israelites. Meanwhile, within the gates of Samaria, there was a severe famine in the land, and the people were left to scramble for whatever was left by the famine.





The king had been so worried about the situation, and he didn't know what to do. But Elisha, who was the man of God at that time, came with a message of hope from God to him.

"I have a message for you," Elisha said to the king. "The Lord promises that by this time tomorrow, here in Samaria, you'll buy a large sack of flour or two large sacks of barley for almost nothing."

Everyone who heard the message of Prophet Elisha was amazed.



But the chief officer, who was the king's personal assistant, did not believe the words of the man of God. So, he tried to persuade the king to dismiss the words of Elisha, as frivolous and wishful thinking.

He moved closer to the king and whispered into his ears, "I don't believe it!" Then turned to Elisha and with a sneer he said, “Look, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, could this really happen?”



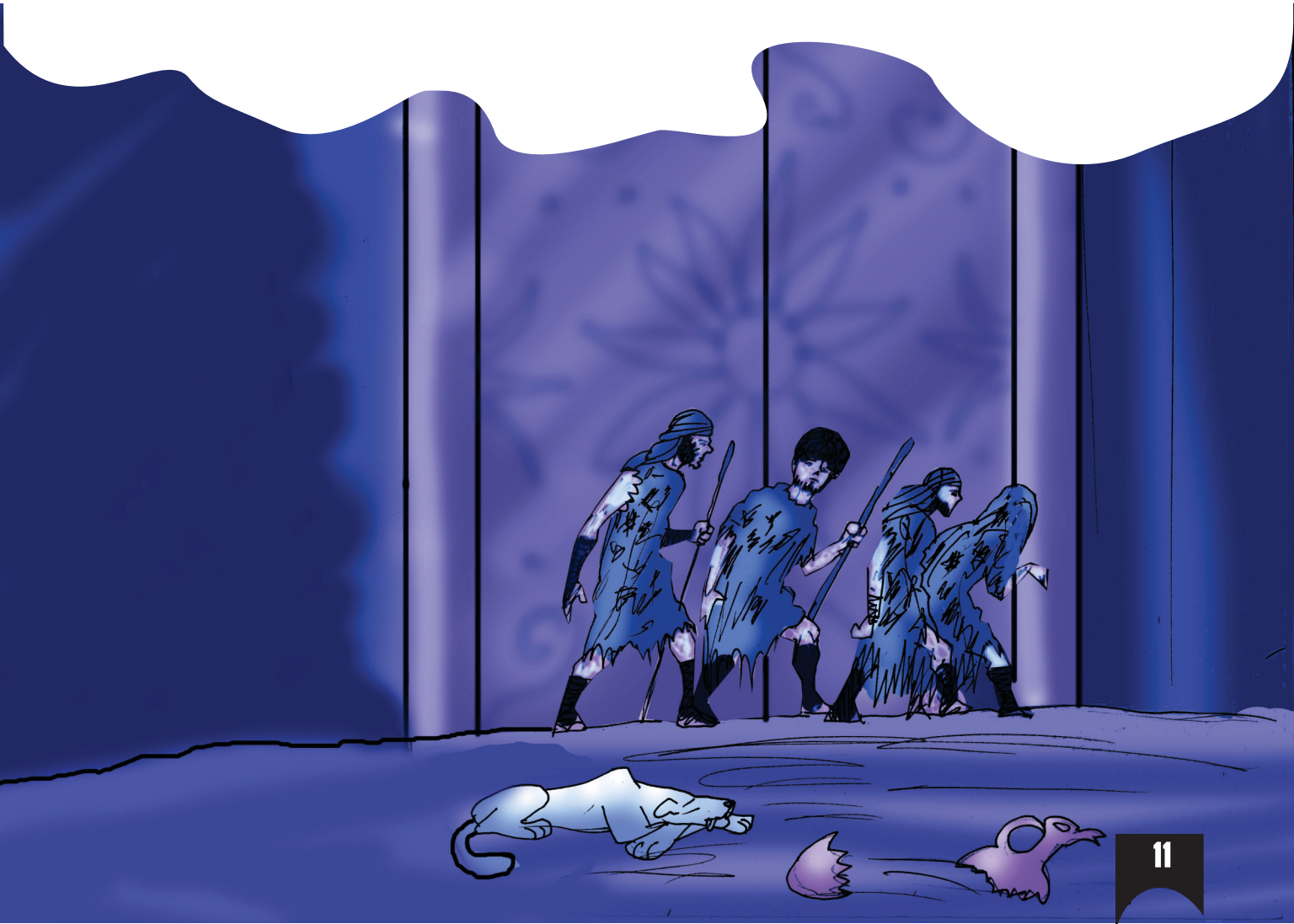
Elisha was unruffled by the officer's comment. He simply replied, “In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you’ll not eat of it.”

“Hmmm! I don't think I have the time to listen to this prophet who knows nothing about trade and business,” he smirked.

As soon as Elisha spoke to the king, the Lord made sure his words came to pass. There were four lepers at the entrance of the city gate. They weren't allowed to live within the city because of their condition; hence, they lived outside the city. These lepers hadn't eaten for a long time. They sat waiting for alms from passers-by, but nothing was forthcoming, because the city gate had been shut up; no one went in and no one came out!



“Why are we sitting here until we die?” The lepers said to one another. “If we say, ‘let us enter the city,’ the famine is in the city and we shall die there. And if we sit here, we would die also. Now therefore, let us surrender to the army of the Syrians. If they keep us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall die."
They concluded it was better to die from the sword of the Syrian army than die of hunger. So they went to the camp of the Syrians.



That evening, when the lepers got to the camp of the Syrians, there was no one there. The whole camp was empty! What could have happened?

Earlier before the lepers got to the camp of the Syrians, as they were approaching the Syrian's camp, the Lord caused the Syrian troops to hear the noise of approaching chariots and horses that sounded like a great army instead.

The Syrians soldiers were terrified, and said to one another, “Look, the king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of the Egyptians to attack us.”

So, they all ran out of their camp in fear, and left their horses, donkeys and everything they had in the camp behind.

Then, when the lepers came to the camp, they saw no one, only clothes, weapons and food that the Syrians had left behind when they fled for their lives.





The four lepers were surprised at what they saw.

“Where are these people?” asked one of the lepers.

“I'm sure they're hiding somewhere,” the second leper replied.

“What for?” the third asked.

“Look at all the food here, and the clothes and silver, too,” the fourth leper exclaimed, as he strolled into one of the tents.

For the first time in a long while, the lepers had plenty to eat and drink. They also took clothes, silver and gold, and hid them away.

“Hey! I don’t think we’re doing what is right,” the first leper advised.
“How do you mean?” the others asked him. “After all, there’s plenty for us here.”
“Today is a day of good news,” said the first leper. “We shouldn’t be quiet about it, otherwise we might be punished for it.”
“You're right,” replied the fourth leper. “What should we do?”
“Come, let us go and tell the king's household," the first leper suggested.





They went back to Samaria and announced the good news
to the guards at the gate.
“We went to the Syrian camp; we didn't see anyone there, only horses and donkeys, even the tents looked untouched.”

When the news got to the king, he was suspicious and thought it was a trick by the Syrians, to lure them out of the city to destroy them.

"Let me now tell you what I think the Syrians are up to," the king warned. "They know we're hungry, so, they're hiding somewhere in the field, waiting to catch us alive if we go out of the city."



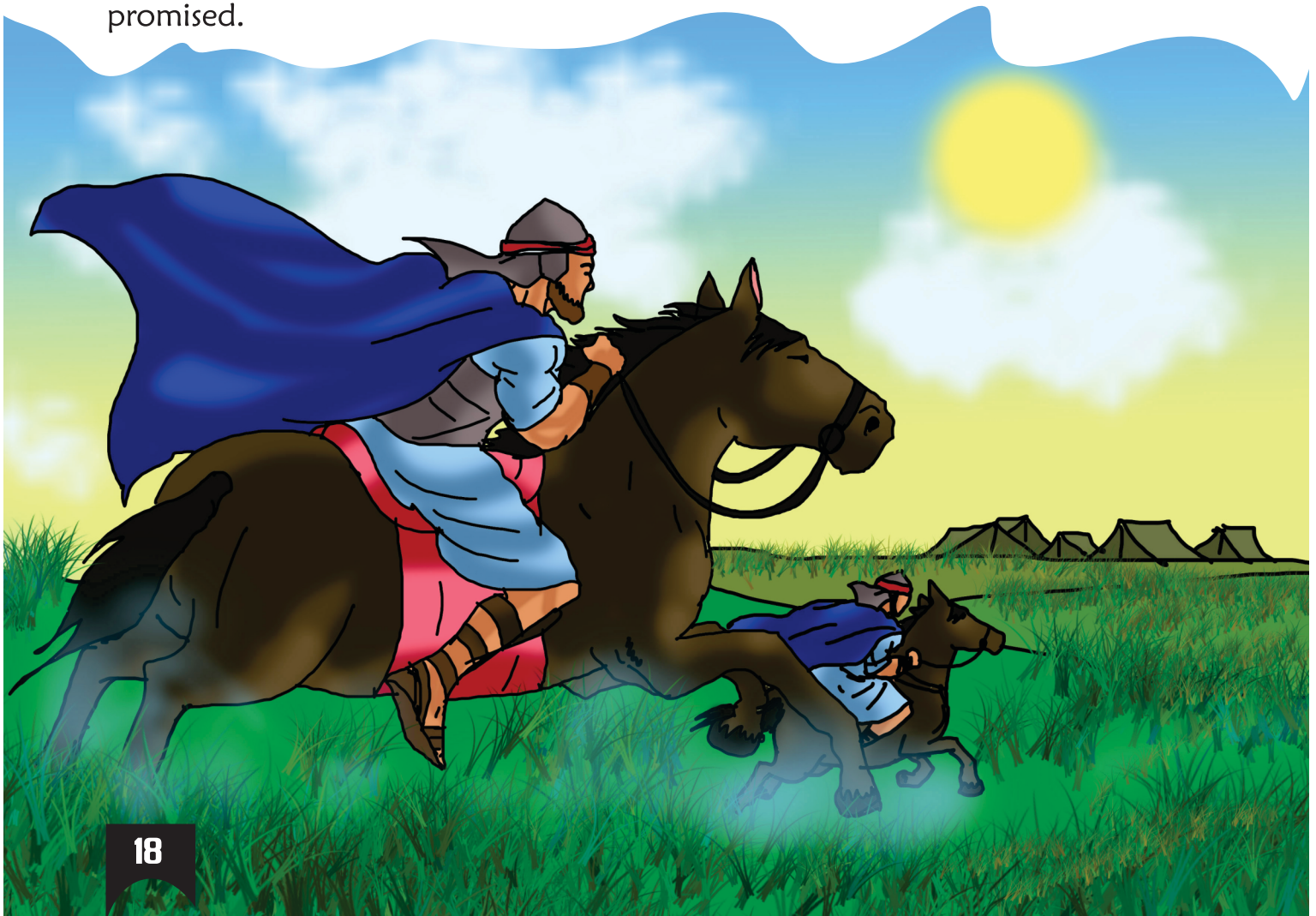


But one of the king's ministers spoke up and said, “We have a few horses left in the city; let some men take five of them and go to the Syrian camp, and see if what the lepers said was true.  We're going to die anyway if we do nothing.”

The king agreed with him, and sent some men with two chariots to the Syrian camp

The king's servants rode as far as they could. No Syrian soldier was in sight, except some clothes which they had left behind while they hurried away. Then the servants went back and reported to the king what they saw.

The following day, the news had gone round the city of Samaria. There was a rush for what the Syrians had left behind. The people took so much that a large sack of flour and two large sacks of barley were sold for almost nothing, just as the Lord promised.



Meanwhile, the king had appointed his chief officer, who had doubted the words of Elisha, to supervise the distributions of the food. But there was a heavy rush, and the crowd became uncontrollable that they ran over him, and he died.





The situation of the people suddenly changed. There was abundance to the delight of everyone. The famine and hunger came to an end. And the fear of attack by the Syrians was no more. All these happened in one day according to the words of Elisha, the man of God.

# TALK SHEET

# THE MIRACLE OF PROVISION

**THE MIRACLE OF PROVISION** is one interesting story in the Bible that shows the wonder of God's Word. Elisha spoke God's Word to the King and it came to pass just as he had said it, and the people of God were delivered from the famine and war.

## Thoughts to Ponder

1. **The Chief Minister didn't believe Elisha's message. He doubted God's ability. Why?**
   He thought the situation in Samaria was too terrible for God to make a change in one day. But there is nothing impossible for God to do.
   In Jeremiah 32:27 (MSG) He says, "Stay alert! I am GOD, the God of everything living. Is there anything I can't do?"
   Never doubt God's ability in your life.

2. **The four lepers could have decided not to tell the rest of the people what they saw in the Syrian army camp, but they chose to do so. Why?**
   They knew it was wrong to keep the good news to themselves.
   As a child of God, preach the goodness of salvation to your friends. Don't keep it to yourself.

3. **The Syrian army ran off because they heard the sound of a huge army approaching their camp. Was there really an army approaching their camp?**
   There was no physical army. God caused the Syrian army to hear the sound of a huge army. It was part of God's strategy to change the situation of things in Samaria.

4. **What is the lesson to learn from the chief officer's attitude?**
   He responded in unbelief to God's Word, and he didn't partake in the abundance that came into the City of Samaria.

### QUIZ

1. Things were very cheap in Samaria as a result of the economic situation.
   **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *(page 6)*
2. The Chief Officer believed what Elijah said.
   **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *(page 8)*
3. Did the Syrian army see the huge army approaching. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *(page 12)*
4. The four lepers told the guards what they saw in the Syrian army camp.
   **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *(page 15)*
5. In twenty-four hours, the words of Elisha came to pass
   **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *(Page 20)*

# DANIEL AND THE KING'S DREAM

Daniel 2: 1-49

## Introduction

Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon. He was the most powerful king during his time. He conquered the land of Judah and carried the people away to Babylon. One night, he had a dream that frightened him. It troubled him so much that he could not sleep. He called his wise men together and asked them to interpret his dream, but he did not tell them what the dream was about.

They however couldn´t, and this made the king very angry. But one man out of the lot did the impossible. In this story, DANIEL AND THE KING´S DREAM, a young man proves that God´s wisdom is greater than human wisdom.

# Daniel and The King's Dream

One night, King Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, had a nightmare. It was a frightening dream! He woke up very distressed because he didn't know the interpretation of the dream. His mind was so troubled that he could no longer sleep.





He commanded that all the wise men, counselors, advisors, magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers in Babylon be summoned to his palace immediately.
“I had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know what the dream means," he said to them, looking downcast.
“O king, live forever!” his wise men hailed. “Tell us the dream and we will give the interpretation."

"No, that is the problem, I won't tell you the dream," declared the king.

"Why O King?" they asked.

“My decision is final: if you don't tell the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces and your houses shall be burnt to ashes,” emphasized the king.

“However, if you tell me the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive gifts, rewards and great honour.”

“But Your Majesty …”

“Tell me the dream and its interpretation!” the king interrupted in a stern voice.





The wise men consulted among themselves, and then pleaded with the king again, “Let the king tell his servants the dream and we will give its interpretation."

The king replied, “Now I know that you're trying to buy yourselves some time, because you know my decision! You have agreed among yourselves to lie to me and cook up some fancy interpretation to change my mind. "

“Huh!” the wise men uttered in amazement.

“Now tell me the dream and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation," said the king.



The astrologers looked at one another in dismay, and then said to the king, “There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter. In fact, no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked his subjects to do such a thing."

"Really?" the king answered.

"Yes, the king's request is impossible!” the wise men replied with a tone of certainty. “No man can reveal this to you, except the gods. But they don't live among us,"



The king was very furious at their response and ordered the death of all the wise men of Babylon.

"ARIOCH!!!" He barked out to the commander of his guards.

"Here I am Your Majesty!" Arioch stepped forward.

"Take these fellows away and hang them," the king commanded.

“Yes, Your Majesty,” Arioch answered.

“Please, O king ...” the wise men pleaded. But King Nebuchadnezzar wouldn't listen.



The king's officers went after all the wise men in Babylon, including Daniel and his friends, and they sought to execute them.

When Arioch got to where Daniel and his friends live, he made haste to arrest them. But Daniel, full of wisdom, engaged him in a discussion.

“Why is the decree from the king so urgent?” Daniel asked tactfully.

Arioch told Daniel what happened, and how the wise men were unable to tell the king his dream.

“Yes, the king is displeased with all his wise men, and has ordered for their execution, including you and your friends.” Arioch replied.



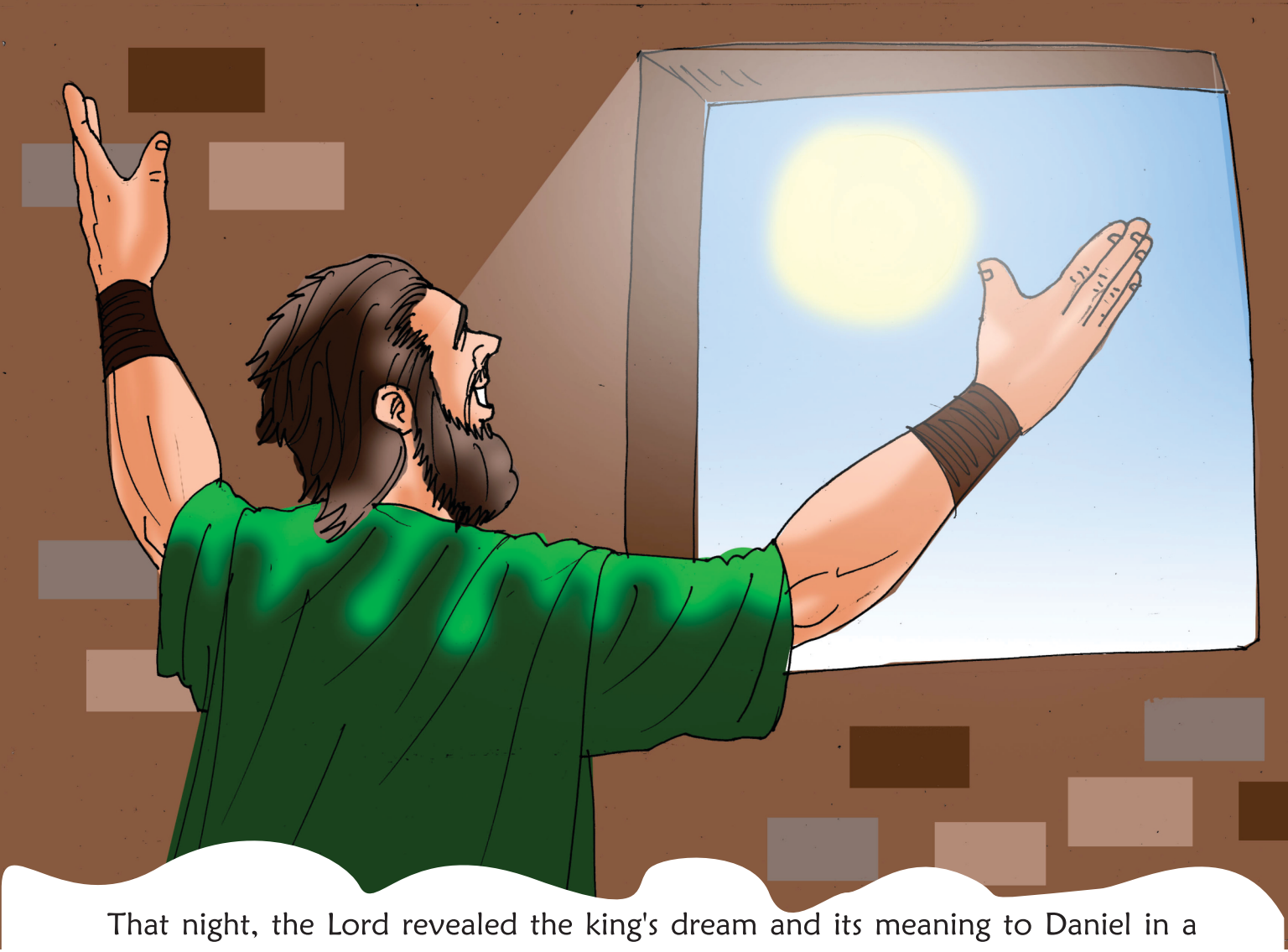
Daniel went at once to obtain permission from the king. He requested the king to give him more time and that he would make known his dream and its meaning to him.

"Are you sure?" the king quizzed.

"My God explains deep mysteries, and even the dark is light to Him. In a short while, I will have the answer to your mystery, O king," Daniel promised.



Daniel went home to his three friends, and told them of the king's decree. He asked them to pray to God to help them solve the mystery behind the king's dream.
So, Daniel and his friends took time out to pray.



That night, the Lord revealed the king's dream and its meaning to Daniel in a vision.

Daniel was full of joy and gratitude to God. He lifted his hands up to the Lord and worshipped, “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever. He gives wisdom and knowledge to those that love Him. I thank and praise you, Lord for giving me the wisdom to know the king's dream.”



Daniel went back to Arioch, and requested he be taken to the king, “Don’t kill the wise men of Babylon; take me before the king, and I’ll tell him his dream and its interpretation."

Arioch agreed, and led Daniel to the king.

“O king,” Arioch announced, “I have found a man from the captives of Judah, who will make known the dream and its interpretation.”

"Bring him in at once!" the king ordered.

Immediately, Daniel was ushered into the king's presence.



“Can you tell me the dream I saw and give its interpretation?" the king asked Daniel, “It's a waste of time to ask your wise men, the astrologers, the magicians and the soothsayers of your kingdom to tell the dream. They can't,” Daniel started. “But there’s a God in heaven who reveals secrets. And He has told me your dream!”
The king became curious, and listened to Daniel with rapt attention.



Then Daniel told the king the dream and gave its interpretation.

“The great God has revealed to the king what will happen in the future,” Daniel concluded. “The dream is certain and its interpretation is sure."

When Daniel was through, King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face in awe before Daniel and said, “Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets."



Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many gifts. He made Daniel president over the whole province of Babylon and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon. Daniel requested of the king about his friends, and the king made them lords over the affairs of the province of Babylon, too.

Daniel preserved the lives of the other wise men in Babylon, and brought honour to the Lord.

# TALK SHEET

# Daniel And The King's Dream

King Nebuchadnezzar had a frightening nightmare. He wanted his wise men, counselors, advisors, magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to unravel the mystery of the interpretation. But they are to tell him the dream first before he would believe their interpretation.
His wise men could not tell his dream nor give its interpretation, but Daniel did the impossible. He did not only tell the king his dream, he also interpreted the dream.

## Thoughts to Ponder

1. **King Nebuchadnezzar woke up in the night full of fear. What could have made him so frightened?**
He had a nightmare!
God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, of love and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7). Refuse to fear! Take charge of any unpleasant situation that may come your way, for you have the power to do so.

2. **King Nebuchadnezzar was angry with his magicians, sorcerers and wise men. Why?**
He trusted mere human abilities and wisdom for results. Meanwhile the task before the wise men couldn't be achieved by human wisdom. This is not a surprise because human wisdom which is the wisdom of the world, is nothing compared to God's wisdom (1 Corinthians 2: 5-6).

3. **Daniel asked the king for some time to tell him his dream and to interpret it. Why was he so confident?**
Daniel trusted in God's ability and help. He knew if he prayed to God, he would get an answer. The Bible tells us in Daniel 1: 17 that "... God gave to Daniel a special ability in understanding the meanings of dreams and visions."

4. **King Nebuchadnezzar praised God and said to Daniel, "He is the God of gods." Why did he say this?**
Daniel told the king that it was God who showed him the dream and gave him the interpretation (Daniel 2:45). No other god or human could have done this. He alone is supreme, great and mighty!

## QUIZ

1. King Nebuchadnezzar remembered his dream. Yes☐ No☐ (page 25)
2. The magicians, sorcerers and other wise men were able to tell the king's dream. Yes ☐ No ☐ (page 27)
3. The King disagreed when Daniel asked him for more time to tell him what he dreamt and what it meant. Yes ☐ No ☐ (page 30)
4. God revealed King Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel in a vision. Yes ☐ No ☐ (page 32)
5. King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was a revelation of what was to happen in the future. Yes☐ No☐ (page 35)

# JESUS' FIRST MIRACLE

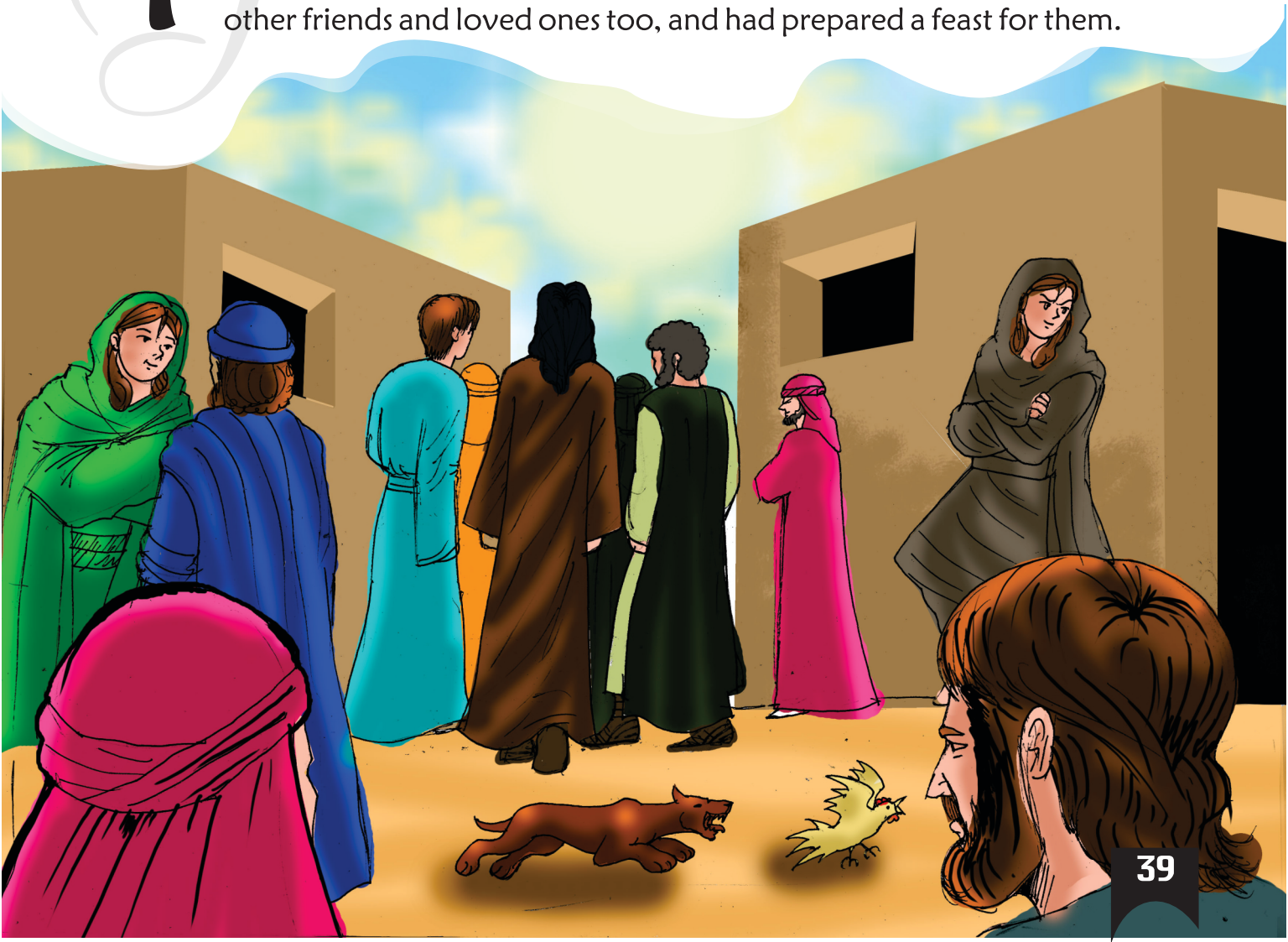
John 2: 1-11

## Introduction

Jesus was a guest at a wedding celebration. During the celebration, He was informed that the organisers ran out of wine before all the guests were served. The host panicked, because he didn't know what to do. But Jesus saved the day by providing more wine in a most peculiar and awesome way! Find out how Jesus did this in this interesting story titled: "**Jesus' First Miracle**".

# JESUS' FIRST MIRACLE

There was a little village in Galilee called Cana. Jesus, His mother and His disciples were invited to a wedding there. The hosts had invited many other friends and loved ones too, and had prepared a feast for them.





While the feast was on, more and more guests arrived. The hosts had not imagined the large turnout. Soon, they started running low on wine.



“What do we do?” One of the servants whispered anxiously to the others, “We're running out of wine!”

“There’re more guests who have not been served,” replied the second servant.

“And more guests are coming in,” concluded the third.



Mary noticed they had run out of wine. She thought of what to do. The idea of getting new supply didn't seem like a better option because the delivery might arrive late. Then, it dawned on her that Jesus was the solution to the problem; and no problem is beyond Him.



"Jesus," Mary called Him aside. “May I have a word with you?"

"Mother, is anything the matter?" Jesus said, seeing the concern on her face.

“They have no wine," Mary said.

“Mother, what does that have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come,” Jesus said to her.

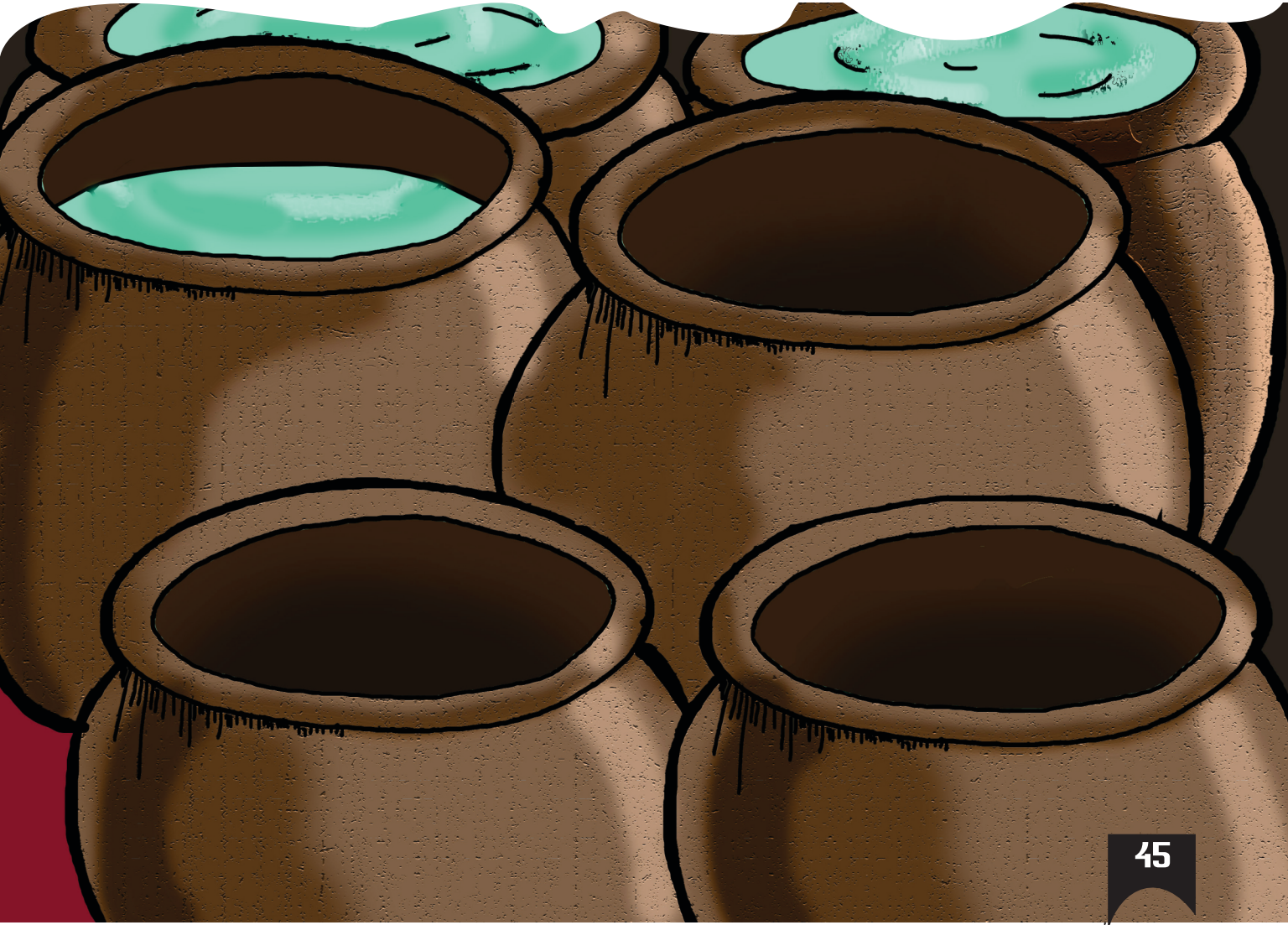
"Son, this celebration will be ruined if nothing is done," she said convincingly.



Mary beckoned on the servants, and she said to them, “Whatever He says to you, do it,"
Then the servants waited on Jesus, and were ready to take instructions from Him.

Meanwhile, there were six water pots at the entrance of the house used by the guests for washing of hands and feet.

This was a common practice for the Jews. They usually washed their hands and feet before they entered any house, especially when they had been to a public place.



Jesus told the servants to fill those pots with water. The servants did as Jesus instructed, and filled each water pot to its brim.



"Sir, we have done as you've said," one of them spoke up.
“Draw some out now,” Jesus instructed. “Take it to the master of the feast.”





The master of the feast was the Chief Guest. Usually, he tasted the food and the wine before the guests were served. It was this man Jesus told the servants to serve first so he could taste it.



The master of the feast took the cup and sipped.
"Huh!" he paused for a while, and then continued sipping. “Wow!" he exclaimed finally.
Everyone stopped and looked at him curiously to know why he was excited.



Then he called the groom up. “Every host at the beginning of a feast serves his guests wine of good quality first; and later serves them the lesser quality,” he said to the groom. “But you have kept the good wine until now!”



The master of the feast did not realise that the wine was drawn from the water pots at the entrance of the house.

The groom and the bride were grateful because they had more than enough wine for their guests. The guests were also happy because they had the best wine ever.

This was the first miracle Jesus performed that was recorded in the Bible and it showed His glory. His disciples wondered at the miracle, and they believed in Him.

TALK SHEET

# Jesus turns Water to Wine

Jesus performed lots of miracles while He was here on earth. In the story, Jesus' First Miracle, we see the greatness and power of Jesus being openly displayed as He performs His very first miracle. This account is a proof of Jesus' ability to bring out the best in any negative situation.

## Thoughts to Ponder

1. **Why did Jesus' mother go ahead to tell the servants what to do even when Jesus said He couldn't help her at that time?**
   She must have been walking by faith. Besides, she knew there was something special about Jesus (Luke 2:51) she knew that He came to the earth for a purpose (Luke 1:30-33).

2. **Jesus' mother told the servants to do whatever He told them to do without asking questions. Why?**
   She knew that the instructions He would give them might not sound reasonable. Sometimes when God gives you an instruction to do something, it may sound odd but rather than question Him respond in faith because He knows what's best for you.

3. **The disciples believed in Jesus after He performed the miracle. Didn't they believe in Him before?**
   They had always believed in Jesus, that was why they followed Him in the first place. The miracle Jesus performed further strengthened their faith in Him.

## QUIZ

1. Where did the wedding ceremony take place? A. Egypt B. Cana C. Samaria (page 39)
2. Was the water in the water pots clean water? Yes ☐ No ☐ (page 45)
3. What did Mary tell the servants?
   A. Fill the pots B. Do whatever He tells you C. Buy more wine (page 44)
4. Was it the bridegroom that tasted the new wine first? Yes ☐ No ☐ (page 48)
5. What did the miracle do to the disciples of Jesus?
   A. They told everyone around B. They asked the groom to pay for the wine C. They believed in Jesus (page 55)