

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

My favorite part of this miracle is the comment of the chief steward, that the bridegroom had saved the best wine until last. I always see that as symbolism that God saved his best for humankind, through his son Jesus for last. For years prophets and others predicted and longed for God's intervention but never saw it. Yet God, in God's timing was true to God's commitment of sending his best to humankind.

God's timing is something to always be reminded of on our spiritual journeys. Our instant society too many times thinks that it is an inalienable "right" to get what one wants, and gets it NOW. Even if we don't buy into that fully, I would say that all of us are affected by that attitude somewhat.

When I was told to "wait" when I first inquired about entering the process of ordination for my denomination, the governing body of my church told me to wait. I did not like that at all. But God's timing some four years later was absolutely right.

When a best friend of mine longed for marriage, going through a number of relationships, and see a few of the women he dated marrying friends of his, he was getting pretty discouraged. This took pace over a period of about EIGHT years! All he wanted from God was a wife and family.

But soon after that time, God brought the woman into his life who was to be his wife. Now they are doing very well, been married for quite a while and have a very nice family.

Friends, real faith in God is not for the "faint-hearted." It calls us to trust God on God's terms. Such a proposition requires us to understand such trust, unshakeable as Mary had in Jesus in Cana, can mean that God may just be saving God's best for last!

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