

NCS MESSAGE GUIDE

TOPIC: How To Embrace Patience in Quarantine (Patience, Purpose and Prayer)

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-12

CENTRAL TRUTH: During quarantine, patience and reliance on God will lead to growth in relationship with Him.

PRAYER: Lord, give me a spirit of patience in this trying time. Let me seek your purpose for my life every day and trust that I'm walking the path you have set before me.

Scripture

2 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.^[a] **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.

Message Summary

God is our provider and He is working in our life even when we don't think he is. Quarantine is a season of patience. Waiting to hear back from a job, getting accepted to a college, or even waiting for the mall to open back up. The fact of the matter is, we are all in a season of waiting, how can we find purpose in that? Did God forget about us and is just leaving our lives in our own hands? Of course not.

Like in the story, Mary came to Jesus nervous about the fact that the wine had run out. I know I often come to God frantic about my situations in life. I recently applied to a job and waited a month while in quarantine to hear back, and God was definitely teaching me patience through that. Continuing the story, Jesus tells the servants to fill these jars with water, because he had a plan he was pursuing. I think obedience is a huge part of patience. God wants us to obey his will for our life, even if it may contradict with our plans. Then finally the jars of water were divinely turned into wine, Jesus first miracle. I'm not sure what you guys are going through or where God has you, but I know that God is capable of amazing things. 6 jars that hold 20-30 gallons turned from water to wine. This is an overabundance of what they could have asked for, but that is the God we serve.

Questions to Consider

1. How am I seeking God in my every day?
2. How can I trust the Lord to give me abundance, like Mary with Jesus?
3. What plans do I have for my life and have I given those things to the Lord?

Daily Spiritual Practice

Monday

- Listen to the song "Goodness of God" by Bethel Music and meditate.

Tuesday

- Read Psalm 57:2 and reflect on the purpose God has for you.

Wednesday

- Pray with God. Ask him how he wants to use you today and how purpose can fill your day.

Thursday

- Listen to the song "Build My Life" by Housefires and meditate.

Friday

- Challenge a friend by asking them how they are staying purposeful in quarantine. How can you start a conversation around God's purpose for our life?