

## Thoughts from Pastor – A Sermon Companion

The potential for sin. That is a core element of this week's message. I suppose it is a core element of human existence. We have this real nasty habit of taking anything and everything and turning it into something sinful.

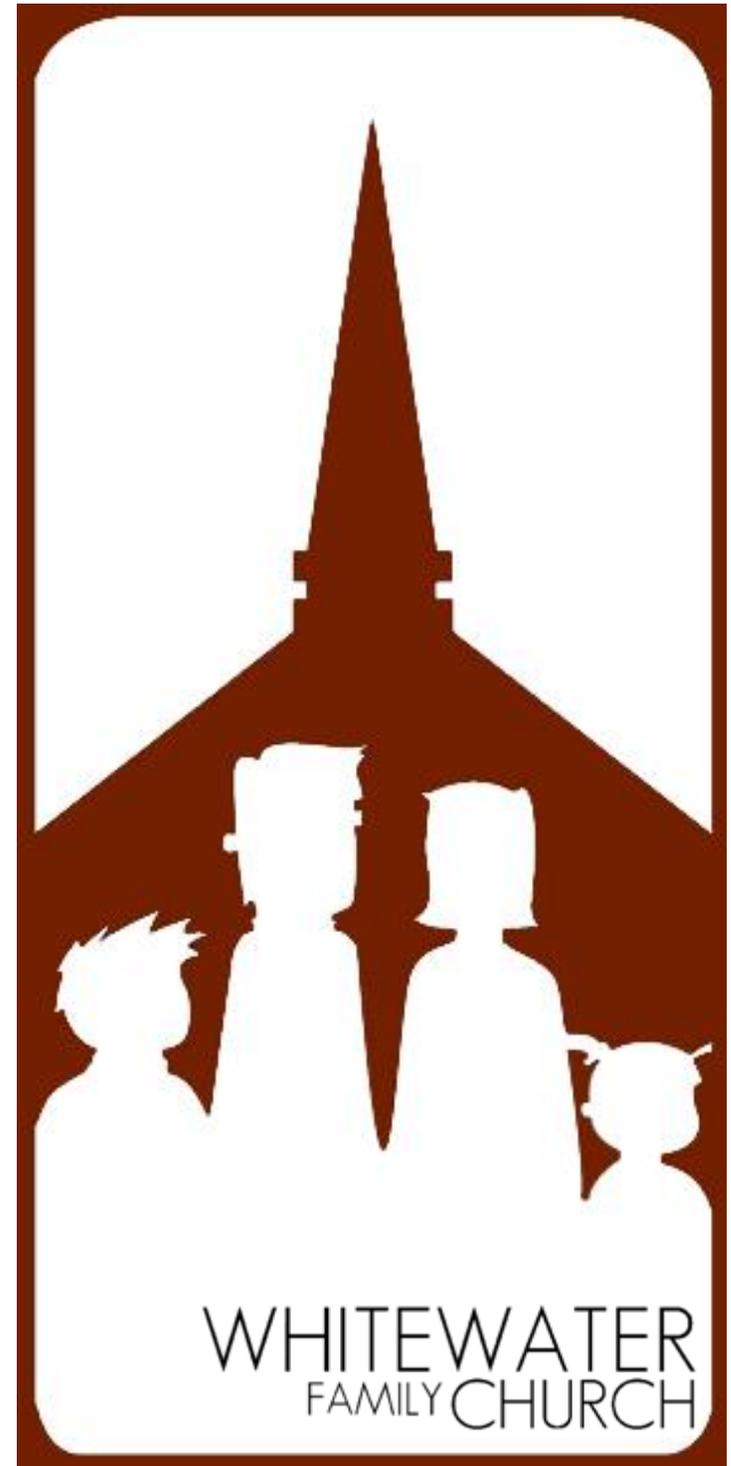
That's what is really at the heart of Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding of Cana. A wedding celebration is a fantastic event. It is one that truly transcends almost all other social gatherings to become so much more. It is perhaps only rivaled by the births of children. We portray it as one of the most pure moments in our human lives.

And yet it has long been and will likely continue to always be one of the places where some of the most despicable and reprobate behaviors find their home. It was like that in Jesus' day and it is like that today.

So why? Why does something that should be a shining example of purity and goodness so often devolve into debauchery? I believe it is in the excesses of the celebration. Humans always find themselves in trouble when they have too much of something, especially good things.

Too much money leads to greed. Too much entertainment leads to slothfulness. Too much food leads to gluttony. Too much sexual desire leads to lust. Too much talent leads to pride. Too much alcohol leads to drunkenness.

Whenever we take anything to an excess we find ourselves in a place where the thing or the behavior has taken over our lives. Jesus isn't opposed to celebration. He isn't opposed to any of the good things in our lives. What He opposes is when those things consume us because when that happens what was once good now steals us away from Him. Develop real self-control and rest securely in His hands.



## Water into Wine John 2:1-11

- I. Let's get this out of the way ... The wine Jesus made was probably ALCOHOLIC**
- Oinos – The main word for wine in Greek, is a fermented wine. It is also the root word for drunkenness and alcoholics.
  - That is the only word used in the passage, including in reference to the stuff Jesus made.
- II. Why would Jesus create something that would lead people to SIN?**
- Two plausible answers ...
  - One – Under certain circumstances drinking isn't a sin. (celebratory)
  - Two: Everything has the potential to become a sin. Therefore wine is no more the cause of sin than multiplied fish and loaves are the cause of gluttony. Or TV and couches the cause of slothfulness.
- III. So why? Why did the whole thing happen?**
- God celebrates our joys with us.
  - God continually allows us the opportunity to make right choices.

### NOTES

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## WHITewater FAMILY CHURCH

*At Whitewater Family Church we strive to pursue God with honesty and excellence by building stronger families, engaging in mentor based discipleship, and encouraging personal calling and ministry*

### Yearly Dinners

*Pastor Mike and Lynn try every year to have dinner/lunch with everyone from the church early in the year. So come find us and schedule a time.*

### Annual Valentine's Dinner. Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - ???

*We're moving venues. The dinner will be held at the 841 Brewhouse this year. There's a sign up in the back. The Cost this year will remain \$15 a person.*

### All Church Vision/Leader Meeting Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

*Everyone is invited out to help us plan and cast vision for the next year.*

### Business Meeting / Flannel Sunday / Pot luck

*March 13<sup>th</sup> we will be having our annual meeting. These have been great times of celebrating what God has done for us. This year will be no different! There have been great things. And as has become custom ... wear your flannels!*

### Women's Conference - See Crystal

*April 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Rockford First Assembly Cost is \$75 to \$95 and cheaper rates may be available if we get enough ladies to go. More details to come.*

### Home-Group

**Wednesday 6:30pm**

*Home-Groups are designed to grow your faith, connect to your church family, and share the love of Christ with your community.*

*Wednesday // 1281 Blackriver Ct, Whitewater WI, 53190*

1540 W Walworth Ave. Whitewater, WI 53190

You can also find us on Facebook or at [www.whitewaterag.org](http://www.whitewaterag.org)

### Pastoral Staff

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