Introduction

- Strange strategy to put the story of a Wedding at the beginning of a Gospel.
- Not a Great Miracle, the opening someone's eyes or raising someone from the dead, but changing water to wine.
- In fact, this event causes some of us embarrassment and puzzlement.
- But perhaps there is more here than meets the first casual observation.

Jesus Came to a Wedding As If He Belonged Here.

1. Wedding in Jesus' day was no small affair.
   - Lasted several days. No self-serve affair.
   - A time of joy, dancing and laughter.

2. Yet Jesus showed them,
   - He belongs at the center of human experience.
   - In the midst of tears, laughter, fears, and doubt.
   - The whole meaning of the Incarnation.
   - We belong, want to keep him on the edge of things.
2.

(3) Some of Us Have the Wrong Idea
- Faith Is A Lonely Sheltered Affair.
- Something You Do on Sundays in a Special Room.
- The Pastor Who Was Warned By the Little Girl Who Threw the Ball at Him.
- Christ Does Not Belong To Many of Us.
- Not Related to Work.
- Not a Part of Social Life.
- Not Related to Marriage.
- Not Related to My Private Deals or Money Making.
- Not Related to The Feet of Human Life.
- Passions, Desires, Anxieties.
- Life Has Been Cut to Pieces.

(4) Christ Belongs To The Heart Of Things.
- Life, Birth, War and Death.
- The Company He Kept.
- Incarnation.
- Woman at the Well.
- Man with Paralysis, Blindness & Fever.
- At the Death Of Joseph.
In Melates, Judgment

finally death on a Cross.

We need a renewed, deepened commitment

to a Christian life in real and living

in the midst of life.
At His Wedding Something New Happened - Water Became Wine

1. Whatever Occur Went Something New Happened
   - Nicodemus - New Birth
   - Woman at the Well - Water of Life
   - Blind Man - Eyes to See
   - Death for Sinner - Life and Hope

2. Man Was Always an Outgrowth of Belief and Trust

3. We Have Great Need for New Beginnings
   - In Human Relationships
     - Envy and Rivalry - No forgiveness
     - Our Family Life - Unmerry Truce
   - The Greater Word Setting
     - Life Over The Lost 25 Years
     - The Agony and Heartache
   - Our Personal Lives
     - Guilt and Death
   - Our Sorrow and Our Woes

→ The O'Henry Story
   "Our God! I wish I could die."
Dr. Augustine

-W in a life of Carelessness, and Shame

-"God, give me Christ, but not yet."

-Then to Milan

-In the Conflitce!

-"O, God, how long! Tomorrow & Tomorrow & Tomorrow!"

-Then a voice: Take up and Read.

Romans:

-Not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and jealousy, but put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof.

-New life.

Companion:

-Augustine. It is F

-"It is no longer F"
This was a case of keeping the best until the last.

"Every man deserves the good wine first," and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.

1. How Different with the Germans
   - Fixing up the living room for the guests
   - On the Store Front
   - The Thing We Buy
     - Like the toy at Christmas
     - Our lives have filled with this
   - The Good Impressions We Create
     - The facade, the front, the handshake
     - How comes the great discovery
   - This Is True in Human Relations

2. What Then Is Your Way of Doing It
   - The more comes at the end
   - The more of help
     - Becomes a matter of dependence
   - Dikes of Forgiveness
     - Now on to each day
3. The Power and Reality of Christian Fellowship.

- The commitment of one's life.

- Our Walk with Christ

  "for we walk with Christ. To die gain."
On this lovely day it is a joy to welcome you to our sanctuary. This is Margaret Clark, the Pastor's Assistant, bringing you a word of greeting from the congregation and staff here at First Baptist. We rejoice that you are worshipping with us at your radio this morning. All of us come this morning deeply aware of our own needs and the needs of our world. As we turn from the noisy busyness of our lives to the quietness of this hour it is our hope that you will sense the Presence of God and come to know that His resources are adequate for all of life. Whether you have been with us before or come today as a stranger we hope that before the service is over you will feel that you are among friends.

The Sanctuary Choir has just sung HO, EVERYONE THAT THIRSTETH by MacFarlane. The offertory solo THINK ON THESE THINGS will be sung this morning by Harriet Martin, soprano.

The Scripture which was read this morning was taken from John the second chapter verses 1 through 11. Pastor Fredrikson is preaching the second sermon in a series on the Gospel of John entitled SAVING THE BEST TILL LAST.

If it is possible for you to do so we invite you to attend our Evening Gospel Fellowship tonight at 7 o'clock. Tonight's service will be under the leadership of Rev. James Rowe who will preach on the topic A SENSE OF DIRECTION. The Worship this evening will be climaxed with the Lord's Supper.

Before we return to the Sanctuary let me say again how happy we are that you are with us today. We hope that this service will be a source of blessing to you. Should you be in need of spiritual counsel or guidance please feel free to call our office so that we might have the opportunity of visiting with you. The doors of this church are always open to those who desire to meet God and walk with Him. It is His house and His invitation to you — whatever your name or need — and it is in His spirit that we bid you welcome.