



Belong in Christ

The 7 Signs in the Gospel of John

nccpumc: a united methodist community

The Signs of John

First Sign: John 2:1-11

Wedding at Cana

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and ² Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. ³ When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They don't have any wine."

⁴ Jesus replied, "Woman, what does that have to do with me? My time hasn't come yet."

⁵ His mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Nearby were six stone water jars used for the Jewish cleansing ritual, each able to hold about twenty or thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water," and they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some from them and take it to the headwaiter," and they did. ⁹ The headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine. He didn't know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew.

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Second Sign: John 4:46-54

Jesus' second miraculous sign in Galilee

⁴⁶ He returned to Cana in Galilee where he had turned the water into wine. In Capernaum there was a certain royal official whose son was sick. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus was coming from Judea to Galilee, he went out to meet him and asked Jesus if he would come and heal his son, for his son was about to die. ⁴⁸ Jesus said to him, "Unless you see miraculous signs and wonders, you won't believe."

⁴⁹ The royal official said to him, "Lord, come before my son dies."

⁵⁰ Jesus replied, "Go home. Your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and set out for his home.

⁵¹ While he was on his way, his servants were already coming to meet him. They said, "Your son lives!" ⁵² So he asked them at what time his son had started to get better. And they said, "The fever left him yesterday at about one o'clock in the afternoon." ⁵³ Then the father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son lives." And he and his entire household

believed in Jesus. ⁵⁴ This was the second miraculous sign Jesus did while going from Judea to Galilee.

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Third Sign: John 5:1-15

Sabbath healing

5 After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethesda. It had five covered porches, ³ and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there.^k ⁵ A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir,^l I don't have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I'm trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me."

⁸ Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." ⁹ Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

¹⁰ The Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It's the Sabbath; you aren't allowed to carry your mat."

¹¹ He answered, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' "

¹² They inquired, "Who is this man who said to you, 'Pick it up and walk'?" ¹³ The man who had been cured didn't know who it was, because Jesus had slipped away from the crowd gathered there.

¹⁴ Later Jesus found him in the temple and said, "See! You have been made well. Don't sin anymore in case something worse happens to you." ¹⁵ The man went and proclaimed to the Jewish leaders that Jesus was the man who had made him well.

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Fourth Sign: John 6:1-15

Feeding of the five thousand

6 After this Jesus went across the Galilee Sea (that is, the Tiberias Sea). ² A large crowd followed him, because they had seen the miraculous signs he had done among the sick. ³ Jesus went up a mountain and sat there with his disciples. ⁴ It was nearly time for Passover, the Jewish festival.

⁵ Jesus looked up and saw the large crowd coming toward him. He asked Philip, "Where will we buy food to feed these people?" ⁶ Jesus said this to test him, for he already knew what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip replied, "More than a half year's salaryⁿ worth of food wouldn't be enough for each person to have even a little bit."

⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, ⁹ "A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass there. They sat down, about five thousand of them. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the bread. When he had

given thanks, he distributed it to those who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, each getting as much as they wanted. ¹² When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ When the people saw that he had done a miraculous sign, they said, "This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world." ¹⁵ Jesus understood that they were about to come and force him to be their king, so he took refuge again, alone on a mountain.

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Fifth Sign: John 6:16-24

Jesus walks on water

¹⁶ When evening came, Jesus' disciples went down to the lake. ¹⁷ They got into a boat and were crossing the lake to Capernaum. It was already getting dark and Jesus hadn't come to them yet. ¹⁸ The water was getting rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When the wind had driven them out for about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the water. He was approaching the boat and they were afraid. ²⁰ He said to them, "I Am. ^o Don't be afraid." ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and just then the boat reached the land where they had been heading.

²² The next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the lake realized that only one boat had been there. They knew Jesus hadn't gone with his disciples, but that the disciples had gone alone. ²³ Some boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they had eaten the bread over which the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴ When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵ When they found him on the other

side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Sixth Sign: John 9:1-17

Jesus heals a blind man

9 As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. ² Jesus' disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?"

³ Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God's mighty works might be displayed in him. ⁴ While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means sent). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see.

Disagreement about the healing

⁸ The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?"

⁹ Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him."

But the man said, "Yes, it's me!"

¹⁰ So they asked him, "How are you now able to see?"

¹¹ He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the Pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see."

¹² They asked, "Where is this man?"

He replied, "I don't know."

¹³ Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴ Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man's eyes on a Sabbath day. ¹⁵ So Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶ Some Pharisees said, "This man isn't from God, because he breaks the Sabbath law." Others said, "How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?" So they were divided. ¹⁷ Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: "What do you have to say about him, since he healed your eyes?"

He replied, "He's a prophet."

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?

Seventh Sign: John 11:28-44

Lazarus is ill

11 A certain man, Lazarus, was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (² This was the Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped his feet with her hair. Her brother Lazarus was ill.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, saying, "Lord, the one whom you love is ill."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This illness isn't fatal. It's for the glory of God so that God's Son can be glorified through it." ⁵ Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. ⁶ When he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was. After two days, ⁷ he said to his disciples, "Let's return to Judea again."

⁸ The disciples replied, "Rabbi, the Jewish opposition wants to stone you, but you want to go back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours in the day? Whoever walks in the day doesn't stumble because they see the light of the world. ¹⁰ But whoever walks in the night does stumble because the light isn't in them."

¹¹ He continued, "Our friend Lazarus is sleeping, but I am going in order to wake him up."

¹² The disciples said, "Lord, if he's sleeping, he will get well." ¹³ They thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was in a deep sleep, but Jesus had spoken about Lazarus' death.

¹⁴ Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. ¹⁵ For your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there so that you can believe. Let's go to him."

¹⁶ Then Thomas (the one called Didymus) said to the other disciples, "Let us go too so that we may die with Jesus."

Jesus with Martha and Mary

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was a little less than two miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Many Jews had come to comfort Martha and Mary after their brother's death. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary remained in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died. ²² Even now I know that whatever you ask God, God will give you."

²³ Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die. ²⁶ Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, the one who is coming into the world."

²⁸ After she said this, she went and spoke privately to her sister Mary, "The teacher is here and he's calling for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to Jesus. ³⁰ He hadn't entered the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were comforting Mary in the house saw her get up quickly and leave, they followed her. They assumed she was going to mourn at the tomb.

³² When Mary arrived where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her crying and the Jews who had come with her crying also, he was deeply disturbed and troubled. ³⁴ He asked, "Where have you laid him?"

They replied, "Lord, come and see."

³⁵ Jesus began to cry. ³⁶ The Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "He healed the eyes of the man born blind. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Jesus at Lazarus' tomb

³⁸ Jesus was deeply disturbed again when he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone covered the entrance. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Remove the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, "Lord, the smell will be awful! He's been dead four days."

⁴⁰ Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see God's glory?" ⁴¹ So they removed the stone. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. ⁴² I know you always hear me. I say this for the benefit of the crowd standing here so that they will believe that you sent me." ⁴³ Having said this, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his feet bound and his hands tied, and his face covered with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

⁴⁵ Therefore, many of the Jews who came with Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him. ⁴⁶ But some of them

went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

Prayerfully Journal Your Thoughts:

What does this story say to you about human nature?

What does this story say to you about the person of Jesus?

In what ways does this story affect your way of thinking about your own life?

With whom should you share this story?
