

Notes on Last Week's Message
John 3 - Life is Celebration

- John 2:1-2 *"The next day Jesus' mother was a guest at a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration."*

Jesus went to a wedding celebration - perhaps the happiest celebration of all in human life. Families and friends are caught up in the love and joy of the bride and groom. There is eating and drinking, music, dancing and beauty.

- Our Father God wants us to have a happy life - a life of celebrations with family and friends and within the community where we live.

He said, *"I have come that you might have life, life in all its fullness."* (John 10:10)

- The celebration of life today is a foretaste of life in the new heavens and earth that is to come. *Jesus said, "The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a king who prepared a great wedding feast for his son." Matthew 22:2*

- Our Heavenly Father calls his family - the Christian community - to do two things:

(1) **In so as they are able, to create a life within their homes, communities, and nations where there is celebration.**

-A- Everyone having their own vine and fig tree - food, house, school, health, safety for all.

-B- A culture - community - has celebration and celebrations built into the common life.

-C- A national community which establishes boundaries of behavior to restrain sin, in particular greed, and pursuit of personal pleasure at the expense of others.

(2) **To bring people to Jesus - the man of greatest joy.**
The ultimate source of joy is the inner joy that comes from the indwelling of the Spirit of Jesus. He comes when we invite Jesus into our life. He brings us an eternal life of celebration.

- Revelation 3:20 *"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in and we will share a meal as friends."*

- Psalm 16:11 *"You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever."*

