



## “Water Into Wine”

W.W.J.D. is the operative question for every Christian.

**What would Jesus... drink?** In every generation of American Church history, earnest men and women of God have opposed the use of beverage alcohol.

Indeed, some preachers, churches, and

denominations have even taught that drinking is a sin.

That’s a tough case to make, since Jesus Himself almost certainly served and drank wine at the Last Supper (Mark 14:23-25), He turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:7-10), and He was even chided by His opponents for drinking wine (Matthew 11:19). Furthermore, the Apostle Paul recommended a little wine to Timothy for medicinal purposes (1 Timothy 5:23). And wine is often referenced favorably in Scripture as a symbol of blessing and merriment (e.g., Proverbs 3:10). *Given all that, why abstain?*

First, we should note that **Scripture makes a distinction between “wine” and “strong drink.”** Wine is portrayed in both favorable and unfavorable contexts. Strong drink, meanwhile, is almost always discouraged.

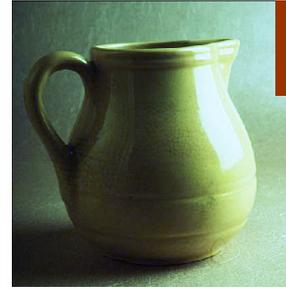
Beyond that, **Scripture warns that alcohol is seductive and deceptive,** and that it leads to all sorts of troubles (Proverbs 20:1, 23:29-35).



Furthermore, **we are taught to steer clear of any behavior which, even though it may not be explicitly sinful, may become stumbling block for another believer** (Romans 14:21, 1 Corinthians 8:9-13). And, finally, the Apostle Paul encourages us to **live under a higher influence:** “Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit” (Ephesians 5:18 KJV).

Is all drinking a sin? No. But most drinking is unwise, which makes it sin’s next-door neighbor. And why would any man or woman of God even step foot into that neighborhood?

**Alcohol Problems Council** : of Wisconsin 



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### *Encouraging Alcohol-Free Living*

*Purpose statement:*

“The purpose of the Alcohol Problems Council of Wisconsin is to promote abstinence from alcohol as a granting agency and a clearinghouse to the faith community.”

**Contact information:**

*Rev. Jim Cotter, Secretary*  
222 S. Dickason Blvd.  
Columbus, WI 53925  
(920) 623-3625  
jcotter@wisconsinumc.org

If you wish to support our work, please send contributions to:  
**Rev. David Busker**  
2277 Fourth St.  
Monroe, WI 53566  
(608) 325-4503

For additional information, check out our website:  
[alcoholproblemswi.org](http://alcoholproblemswi.org)



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