



The Woman at the Well: Living Water

These are basic Bible studies intended to help our teachers personally grasp the “big picture” of our VBS theme. Feel free to use anything here in connecting with your students.

Key text: John 4:1-42

One day, as Jesus was traveling from Judea to Galilee, he passed through Samaria. Jews and Samaritans were like distant cousins who didn't like each other. They often said mean things about each other and stayed as far away from each other as possible.

Along the way, Jesus was tired, so he sat down at about noon beside a well while his disciples went into a town called Sychar to buy some food. While Jesus was sitting there, a Samaritan woman came to draw water from the well. She was surprised when Jesus, a Jew, asked her for a drink. When Jesus started talking about giving her “living water,” she didn't quite know what to think (4:10-12). What was Jesus talking about?

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (4:13-14)

When Jesus told her to go and get her husband, she said she didn't have one. In fact, Jesus knew she had had five husbands, and the man she was living with wasn't her husband. How could Jesus know that? He must be a prophet, the woman thought, and so she asked a question about where people ought to worship—the Jews said in Jerusalem on Mount Zion, Samaritans said on Mount Gerizim in Samaria. So what did this prophet think?

“The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” (4:23-24)

When Jesus revealed himself as the Messiah, the woman left her water jar and told everyone she could find about the amazing person she had met at the well (4:25-42).

The “trust and obey” connection:

- Jesus was willing to be kind to and share good news with anyone and everyone. That's the way we should be as well—kind and ready to share the good news about Jesus.
- God is everywhere at all times, which means we don't have to be in one special place to worship him. He wants us to worship him with all our hearts in the way he has taught us.
- People are looking for happiness in all sorts of places (the book of *Ecclesiastes* is a great example), but only God can really satisfy our hearts. After all, he's the One who made us!

Great Sea
(Mediterranean)

PHOENICIA

GALILEE

SAMARIA

JUDEA

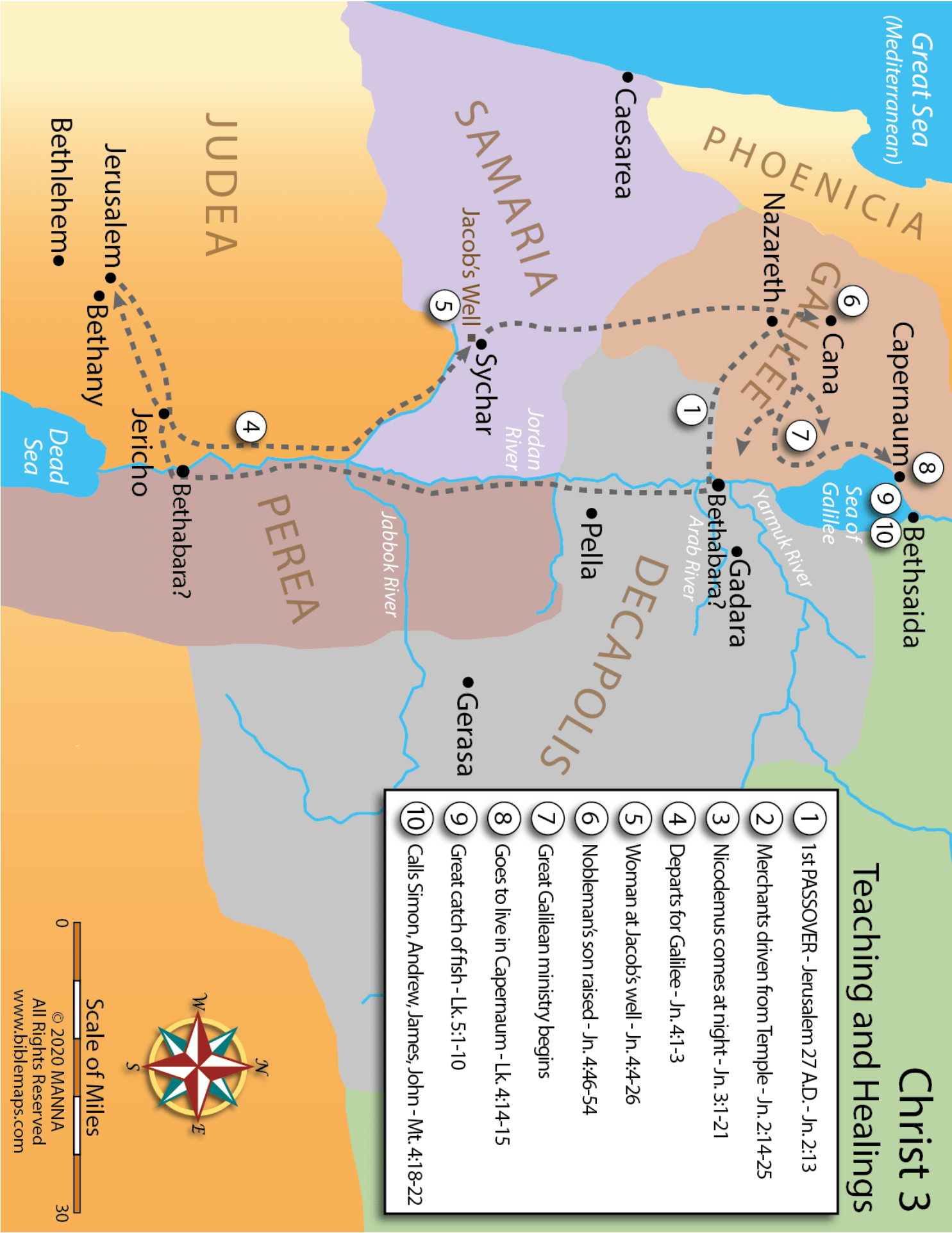
DECAPOLIS

PEREA

Christ 3

Teaching and Healings

- 1 1st PASSOVER - Jerusalem 27 A.D. - Jn. 2:13
- 2 Merchants driven from Temple - Jn. 2:14-25
- 3 Nicodemus comes at night - Jn. 3:1-21
- 4 Departs for Galilee - Jn. 4:1-3
- 5 Woman at Jacob's well - Jn. 4:4-26
- 6 Nobleman's son raised - Jn. 4:46-54
- 7 Great Galilean ministry begins
- 8 Goes to live in Capernaum - Lk. 4:14-15
- 9 Great catch of fish - Lk. 5:1-10
- 10 Calls Simon, Andrew, James, John - Mt. 4:18-22



Scale of Miles
0 30

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