

Let's Go Group Studies

Leader's Notes

1. We're providing this material to you to remove some of the stress and frustration of developing a plan to lead a specific group study. It isn't meant to replace your individual preparation to lead. Our hope is that you would use it as a guide to your engagement with the text and the Holy Spirit and allow Him to lead you as you help your study's participants to have their own relevant encounter with scripture and the Holy Spirit.
2. This plan isn't meant to constrain you to lead in any specific way. **Please do modify it to better meet the needs of your group and to honor your gifting and authentic style.** For example, when and how you pray and share prayer needs should be in a rhythm that is good for your group as long as you are praying as a group. For another, who and how scripture is read should fit your group and its needs as long as it is read somehow.
3. **Be authentic.** If you find yourself saying "They are asking" as in, 'I didn't write this question and I don't really understand why it is being asked.' Don't ask it. Ask something else. It is okay not to understand everything. No one understands everything. If you don't believe in what you're saying, why should anyone else believe it? One way to turn this into a positive is to admit to the group that you are struggling with figuring out a particular bit and allow someone else to contribute their God-given wisdom.
4. Some questions, especially earlier in the study, aren't meant to be a mile deep or transformative. These questions are intended to prompt the participants to notice what is there. They give the participants a way to begin to care about the specific words on the page.
5. Portions of the plan in quotes are meant to be spoken out loud to the group as in, "Who's buried in Grant's Tomb?" You don't have to repeat the question or statement exactly as it appears. Restate it in a way that feels comfortable and natural for you.
6. Portions of the plan in *italics* are meant to be notes to you that you can use as prompts in aiding group discussion and aren't intended to be read verbatim to the group. They may not be the definitive answer but should be a good possible answer. As part of your preparation, please add to and edit the notes to fit where you intend to lead the discussion.
7. A **Follow up question** helps participants open up a little more and look a little deeper and is meant to be asked after there has been some discussion of the prior question.
8. The last two pages are the participant handout. The map is meant to help your group participants place themselves in the story a little better.
9. Please remember that our focus, purpose and practice is to **Love God, Love Others and Make Disciples.**

Let's Go- The One who Heals

- 1) Scripture: Mark 5:21-43, Lev. 15:25-27, Hebrews 11:1, John 5:19-21
 - A. Parallel accounts- Matt. 9:18-26; Luke 8:40-56
- 2) Objective: After studying the listed scripture and participating in the discussion, each person should be able to identify the object of their faith, what that faith looks like and how their experience might be affecting how they act upon some step of faith to which God is calling them.
- 3) Resources: Book of Mark, Grassmick. The Bible Knowledge Commentary, Walvoord & Zuck, Olive Tree Bible Maps, both Copyright 1983, 2003, 2004 by Cook Communications Ministries
- 4) Preparation:
 - A. Pray for guidance
 - B. Review Leader's Notes and read entire lesson plan
- 5) Prayer requests & Open in prayer
- 6) Intro:
 - A. "Last week I asked you to 'identify someone you already know who might need to hear about the good God has done for you? Or, to ask God to send you to someone who needs to hear that good news?' Would anyone be willing to share if they were able to do that and tell us how you feel about the results?" *If you closed last week's study with a different question or application, substitute your closing for this one.*
 - B. Tonight, we see Jesus curing an incurable woman and raising a child from the dead. These two miraculous events witnessed by many people serve to teach us about faith. As we move through this passage, try to identify the object of each person's faith, what their faith looks like and how each person's experience might have affected how they acted upon their faith.
 - C. When we are done, each of us should be able to identify those same things in our own lives and how those things might be affecting some step of faith to which God is calling each of us."
- 7) The study
 - A. Ask for a volunteer to read Mark 5:21-24
 - B. Ask "What kind of thoughts do you think the crowd was having when Jairus came forward? Why do you think Jairus made his request in the manner that he did?"

- i. *What is Jesus going to do next? Is this thing that is making my life a living hell worth Jesus' time? Any good parent would abase himself if there was a chance Jesus could save their child's life.*
- ii. *As an educated man ('leader of the local synagogue'), Jairus recognized the source of Jesus' authority and was confident that Jesus could heal his daughter.*

C. Ask for a volunteer to read Mark 5:25-34

D. Ask everyone to complete question 1 on the handout. Allow 3-5 minutes for them to finish and then ask for volunteers to share their answers.

- i. *"How would you characterize this woman's sickness?" She was incurable, without hope.*

E. Ask for a volunteer to read Lev. 15:25-27

F. Ask "How might the Levitical law regarding her unclean state have effected how this woman viewed herself, how she chose to approach Jesus and how Jesus chose to respond to her publicly?"

- i. *She was 'unclean' in her society and suffered alone. No one would want to touch her or touch the things she touched.*
- ii. *She likely would have feared that Jesus wouldn't touch her and thus not heal her.*
- iii. *Jesus touched and was touched by many people and never evidenced an involuntary healing spasm. He healed deliberately within the will of the Father. His question of who had touched him served a different purpose than finding out who touched him. What do you think that purpose was? See John 5:19-21*

G. Ask "What made this incurable woman well?"

- i. *See verse 34.*

H. Ask for a volunteer to read Mark 5:35-43

I. Ask everyone to complete question 2 on the handout. Allow 3-5 minutes for them to finish and then ask for volunteers to share their answers.

- i. *"Jesus both commends (verse 34) and recommends (verse 36) faith in this passage. How would you describe Jesus' model of faith as he heals this little girl?"*

(1) Jesus doesn't display impatience with how people react or with the situation (see verses 32-34, 36, 39, 40-43) but instead is confident in what is happening and about to happen.

J. Ask for a volunteer to read Hebrews 11:1

K. Ask everyone to complete question 3 on the handout. Allow 5-10 minutes for them to finish and then ask for volunteers to share their answers.

i. "It takes a different level of confidence to step out of a parked airplane onto a jetway at the airport than to put on a parachute and step out of a moving airplane at 10,000 feet. The potential personal loss, the object of our faith and our experience all work together to form how we react to each act. Identify a scary next step you think God is calling you to and then list what you might lose, what or who the object of your faith would need to be and what you might need to add to your experience to make that next step.

(1) This will likely be a tough and complex question for the participants to answer. Please do talk them through it, step by step if necessary. The process of identifying where they need to refocus their faith and how they might do that is the important bit.

(2) Ideally, these answers come from the participants. Whether they get them from the study, the Sunday sermon or elsewhere, the best thing that can happen here is they are verbalized by the participants. If they struggle to answer...

(3) Losses could be: public ridicule for faith and loss of social standing, money, loss of comfort, physical danger.

(4) Objects of faith could be: personal finances, protections of legal system, personal physical strength/stamina, God.

(5) Experience updates: reevaluate past experience for new lessons, gain new training or experience in pursuit of new calling.

8) Summary:

A. Encourage your group members to apply the ideas or principles they developed from question 3. Plan on asking them next week about the results.

B. Close in prayer

Let's Go- The One who Heals

Mark 5:21-43

1) How would you characterize this woman's sickness?

2) Jesus both commends (verse 34) and recommends (verse 36) faith in this passage. How would you describe Jesus' model of faith as he heals this little girl?

3) It takes a different level of confidence to step out of a parked airplane onto a jetway at the airport than it takes to put on a parachute and step out of a moving airplane at 10,000 feet. The potential personal loss, the object of our faith and our experience all work together to form how we react to each act. Identify a scary next step you think God is calling you to and then list what you might lose, what or who the object of your faith would need to be and what you might need to add to your experience to make that next step.

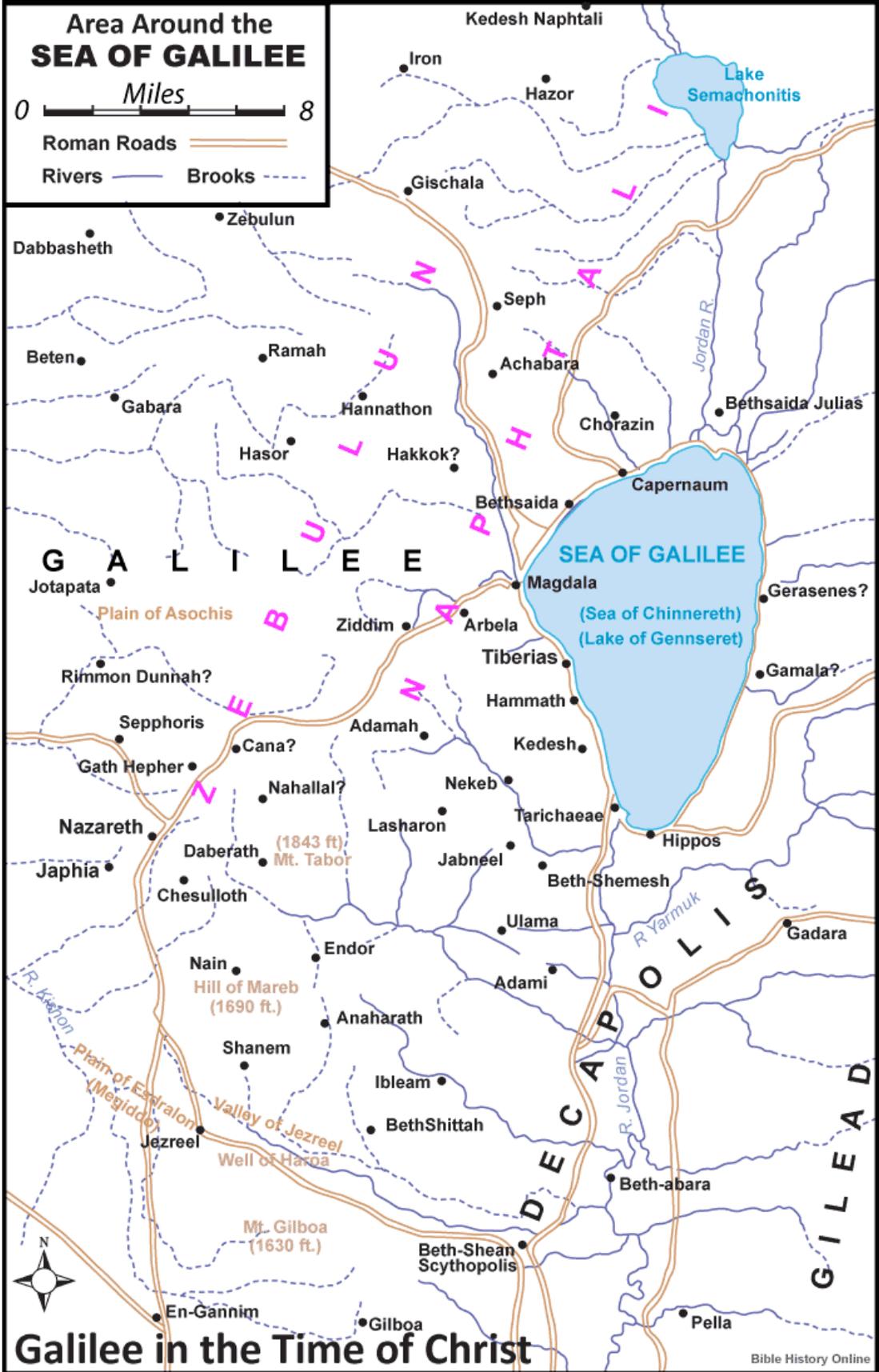
Next step-

Potential loss-

Object of my faith-

Experience updates-

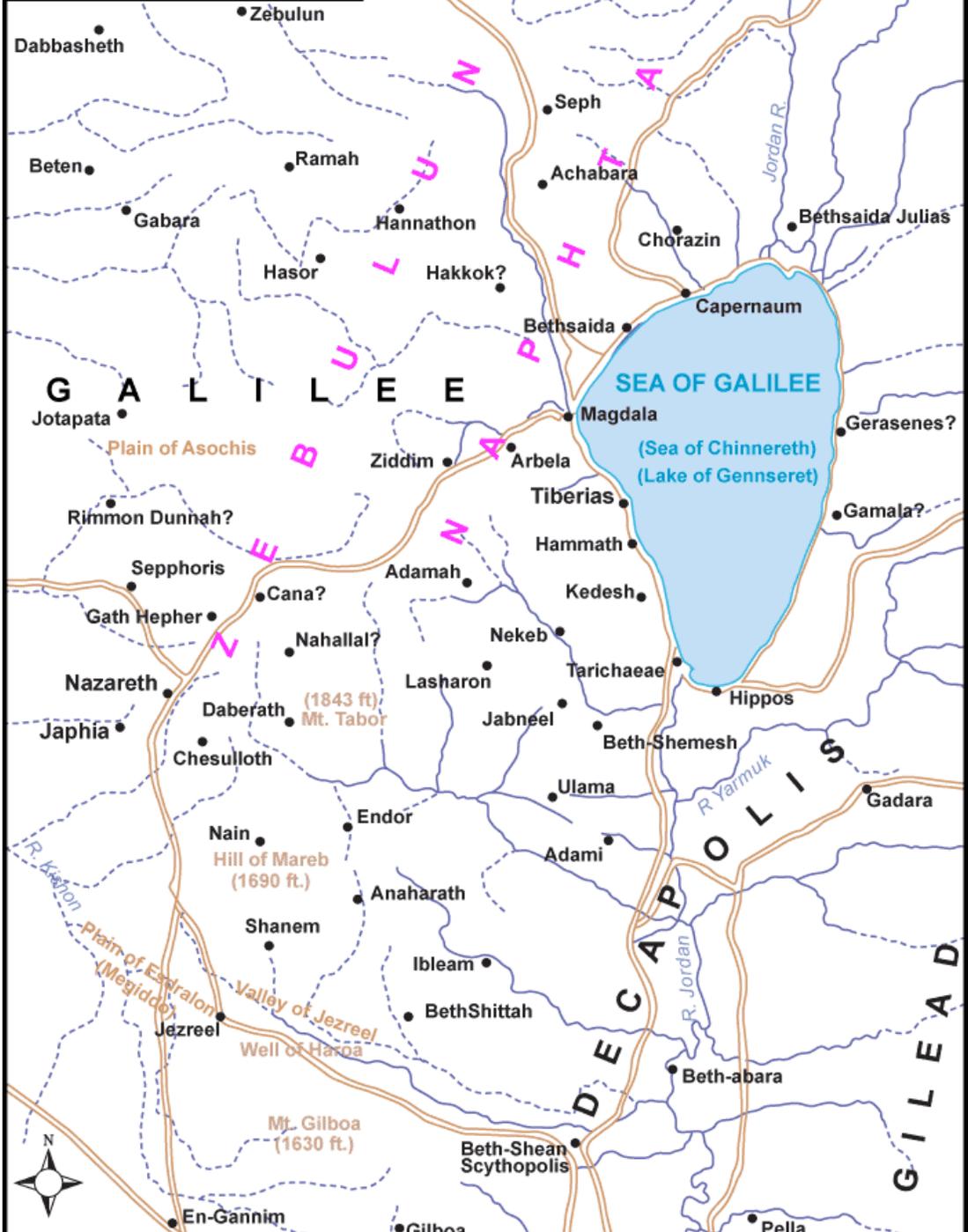
For next time... Read Mark 6:1-6



Area Around the SEA OF GALILEE

0 **Miles** 8

Roman Roads ————
Rivers ———— Brooks - - - -



Galilee in the Time of Christ

Bible History Online