

Power of the Kingdom

Mark 4:21-34



Key Concept

The kingdom of God may start small but will be revealed and grow in power.

**Jesus appoints His twelve
disciples
(Mark 3:13-19)**

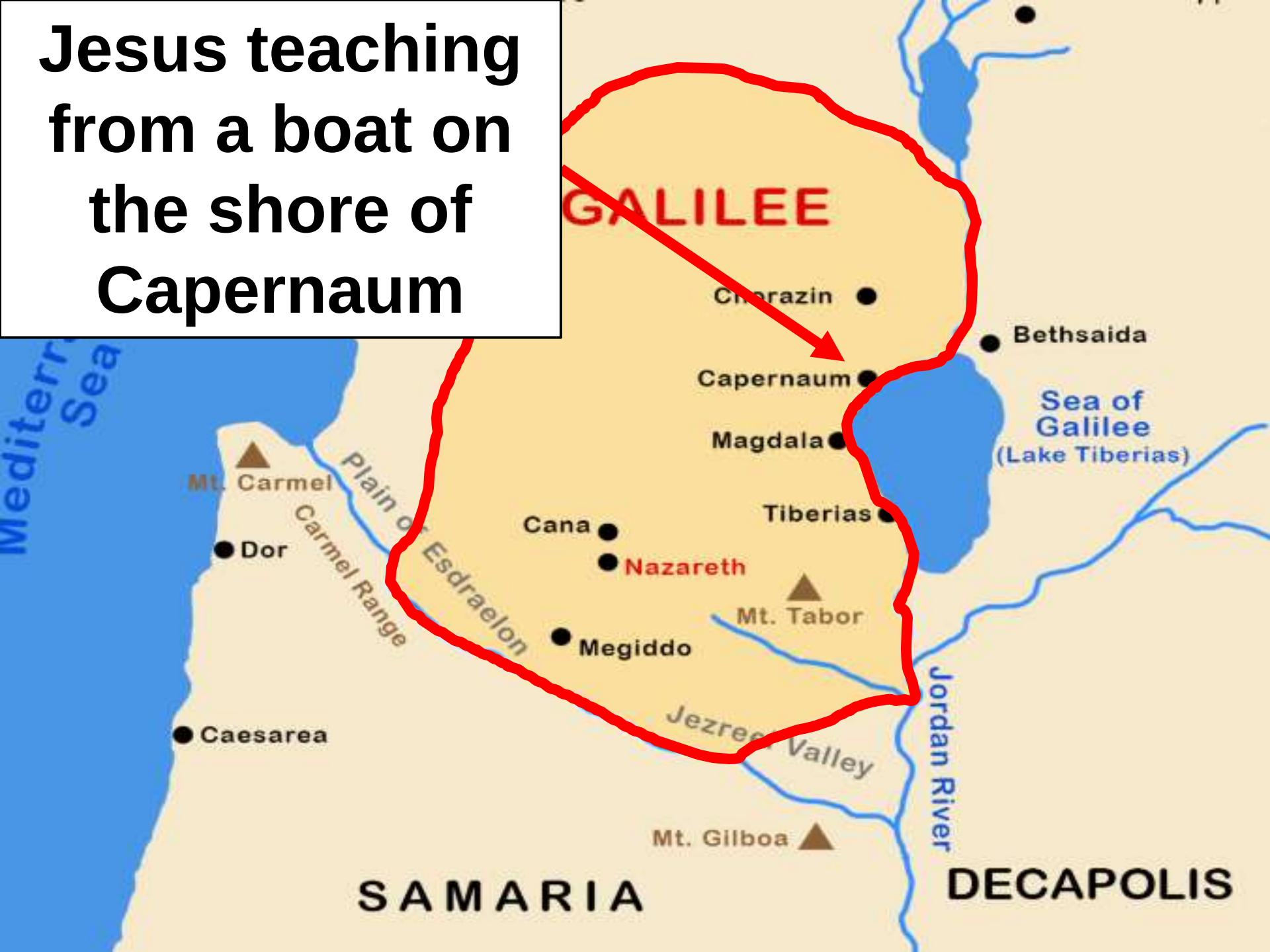
**Jesus heals two daughters
(Mark 5:21-43)**

**Jesus teaches parables on
the Kingdom of God
(Mark 4:21-34)**

**Jesus teaches and explains
the Parable of the Sower
(Mark 4:1-20)**

**Jesus calms a storm
(Mark 4:35-41)**

**Jesus teaching
from a boat on
the shore of
Capernaum**





**Model of ancient
Israel fishing
boat – 27ft long
7.5ft wide – 15
people total**

**Fishing boat
dated
100BC – 50AD
Recovered in
Sea of Galilee
circa 1986**



Parable of the Sower

Heart Types



Blind Heart

Heart's disposition blinds hearer from grasping God's Message.

Rocky Heart

Enthusiastic at first to God's Word, Rocky Heart shallow & lacks will to strengthen initial gift.

Rebellious Heart

Heart partially commits to Christ, leaving disastrous vulnerability to worldly desires & concerns.

Remaining Heart

Heart fully dedicated to Jesus is firmly established, reaping fruit of righteousness plentifully.



Path



Stoney Ground



Thorny Ground

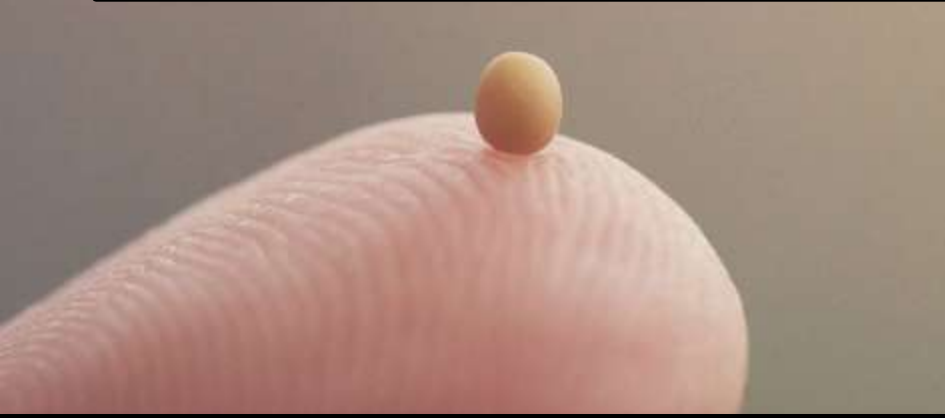


Good Soil

Terra Cotta Lamps



Mustard seed and trees



•Can you list the main points of Jesus' teaching the parables in Mark 4?

- 1) Truth is meant to shine**
- 2) How you listen matters**
- 3) God's kingdom growth is mysterious**
- 4) Great results come from small beginnings**
- 5) Teaching requires patience and adaptation**

•What is a modern way to phrase Jesus' warning to the people He taught saying "those with ears to hear, let him hear?"

"Pay close attention" it was a call to attention signaling that a hidden vital truth was coming.

- What is the major distinction from Luke 8 of how the parable of the Sower is emphasized in Mark 4?

Luke emphasized perseverance and heart conditions – Mark focused on the mystery of reception and revelation of the Word.

- How does Mark seem to distinguish the parable of the Sower from all the others?

Mark treats this story as the foundational test for all understanding. Jesus notes that if you don't understand this parable, you cannot understand any parables.

- Mark is the only Gospel to include a parable about what? **The growing seed**
- Mark 4:24-25 specifically documents Jesus using a Rule of Measure for spiritual understanding the people would receive? **Jesus links a person's attentiveness in listening to how much spiritual understanding and reward they would receive "whoever has, more given... whoever does not have, it will be taken away from him".**
- How many recorded parables did Jesus teach? **35-40**