

Walk Across the Holy Land



5th Destination Capernaum:

The people of Nazareth were not able to accept Jesus as the Messiah, and became angry at his words. You have now walked with Jesus through the threatening crowd 20 miles to Capernaum, which became the center of his teaching and healing ministry. During the ministry of Jesus, he performed many healings. People were healed of fevers, blindness, paralysis and the “demons” of mental illness. Jesus healed Simon Peter’s mother in law of fever and her strength was restored. Following the witness of this miracle, many others came to Jesus for help.



Aerial View of Capernaum

Capernaum was a poor Jewish fishing village on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. Also, it was the home town of the apostles Peter (also called Simon), James, Andrew, John and the tax collector Mathew.

Peter's (Simon's) house was believed to be located close to shores of the Sea of Galilee. A 5th C AD church was built over Peter's house. It has the shape of an octagon which was typical of early churches.



Picture of the 5th C AD Church built over the House of St. Peter.

In 1990 a modern church was built over the 5th C AD church which was built over Peter's House.



Picture of the Modern Church seen from the Sea of Galilee

Inside the Modern Church you can walk up to the main floor which has a glass bottom and view the holy site. Through the glass window you can see the house of St Peter, and around it the Octagon Church.



Also in Capernaum a synagogue was built at the end of the 4th C Ad over an original early Roman synagogue from the times of Jesus. It is believed that this earlier synagogue was where Jesus taught and cast out demons.



Picture of the 4th C AD Synagogue

The 4th C Ad Synagogue was built with white limestone which is in contrast to the local black basalt used to build the original Roman Synagogue.



Notice the white limestone over top of the black basalt.

Biblical References:

Luke 4:24-41

24"I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27And there were many in Israel with leprosy^[a] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

28All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. 30But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit

31Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. 32They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority.

33In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil^[b] spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, 34"Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

35"Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

36All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" 37And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

Jesus Heals Many

38 Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. 39 So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

40 When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. 41 Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.^[c]

Footnotes:

- a. [Luke 4:27](#) The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.
- b. [Luke 4:33](#) Greek unclean; also in verse 36
- c. [Luke 4:41](#) Or Messiah

Next Destination Sermon on the Mount:

Jesus took time from his ministry to seek solitude and to pray, and then he continued to walk about Galilee teaching and healing along the road and in synagogues. Word spread about his good news and large crowds began to follow him. Jesus walked about 25 miles before delivering his Sermon on the Mount. The exact location is not known but according to tradition it is thought to have taken place at the Mount of Beatitudes. Walk with Jesus 25 miles then click on your 6th destination to receive your next packet.