

Advent & Christmas: Visitation

Today's Bible Story

Not long after learning that she would have a baby, Mary went to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, who lived out in the hill country. When Elizabeth saw Mary, her own baby leaped in her womb! Elizabeth blessed Mary, and greeted her joyfully.

Then Mary said,

“My soul praises the Lord! My spirit rejoices in him! For he has chosen me to bear his child, even though I am neither rich nor famous.

“From now on, all generations will know this story and call me blessed. What an amazing thing!

“God who is mighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name!

“Those who love and fear God receive mercy in every generation. But those who are proud, and who think they are better than others, receive judgment.

“God has shown how strong he is by bringing down those who use their power badly, and by lifting up those who are faithful and humble.

“He has filled those who are hungry with every good thing. But those who are rich and do not share with others are sent away with nothing.

“God has helped his servant Israel throughout the generations. He has shown mercy to his people, just as he promised Abraham and our fathers long ago.”

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months. After that, she returned to her home. Later, both women gave birth to sons that would grow up to be very famous. Elizabeth's son would grow up to be known as John the Baptist. Mary's son would come to be known as Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world!



From Luke 1:39-56

Bible Rhyme

Mary walked along the way
to the hills one sunny day.
She was greeted with a prayer
when her cousin saw her there.

And her cousin's unborn boy,
in the womb, leaped up with joy!
Mary said, "I praise the Lord;
he's the one to be adored.

"For he's blessed me with his son,
Jesus Christ, the Chosen One.
"God has done amazing deeds.
He will meet our every need!"

This map shows the three main regions of the Holy Land at the time of Jesus: The region of **Judea** was in the south, **Galilee** was in the north, and **Samaria** was in between. Can you correctly label these regions on the map?

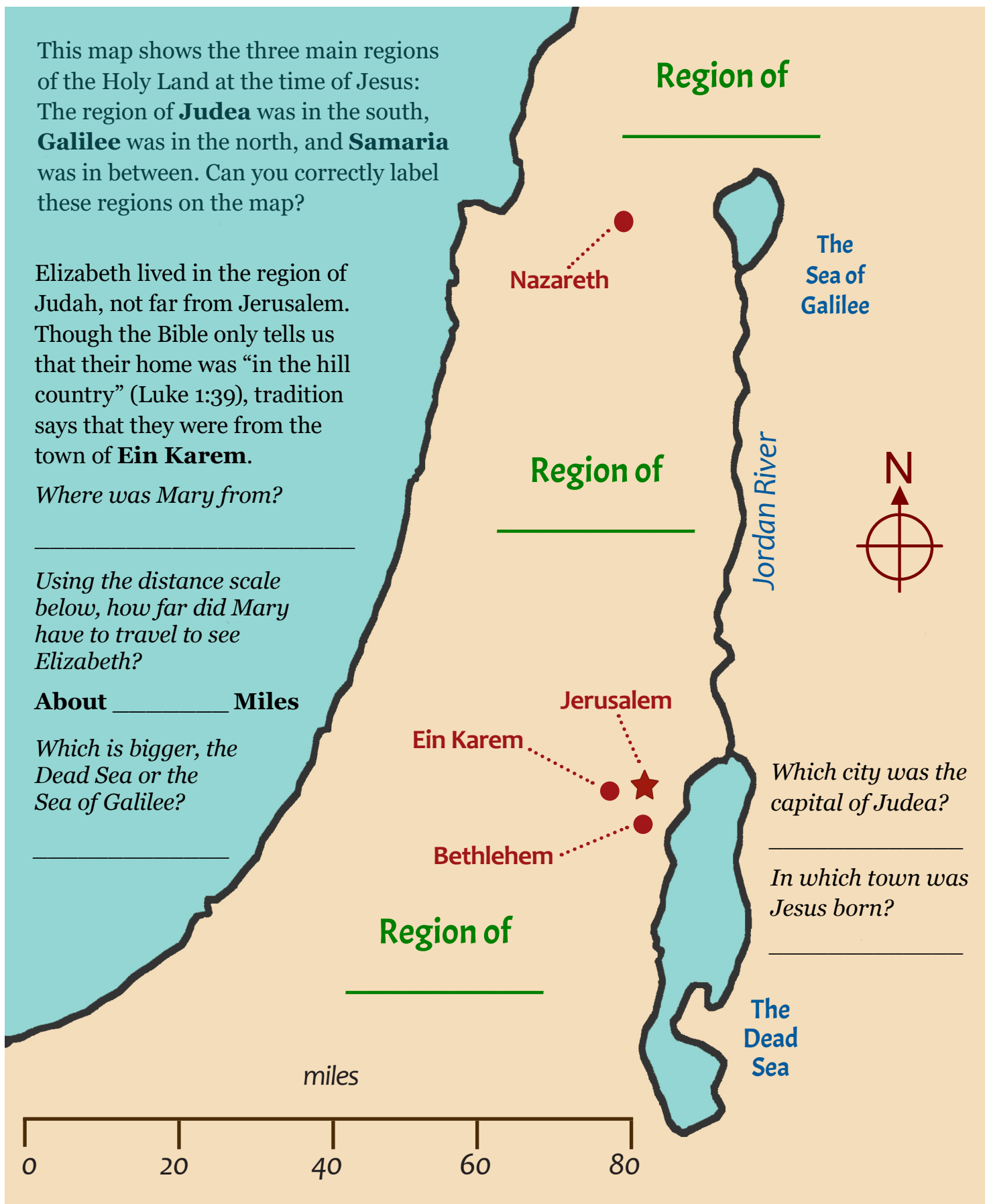
Elizabeth lived in the region of Judah, not far from Jerusalem. Though the Bible only tells us that their home was “in the hill country” (Luke 1:39), tradition says that they were from the town of **Ein Karem**.

Where was Mary from?

Using the distance scale below, how far did Mary have to travel to see Elizabeth?

About _____ Miles

Which is bigger, the Dead Sea or the Sea of Galilee?



Which city was the capital of Judea?

In which town was Jesus born?