

 **Before We Begin...check the original map...**



 **Let's get in gear...**

Was there ever a time growing up when you attempted something difficult because someone you respected thought you could do it?  
What was the result?



 **Exploration...**

1. Why did the Galileans welcome Christ? (v. 4:45; see also John 2:23)

2. How does this compare to why the Samaritans received him? (v. 4:39-42)

3. How can Jesus' statement in v. 4:44 be reconciled with his welcome by the Galileans?

4. What misconceptions does the royal official have about Jesus? (v. 4:47, 49; compare Matt. 8:5-13)

5. Does this change? How do we know?

6. What does the miracle of healing the official's son signify about Jesus?

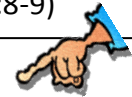
7. Describe the circumstances of Jesus' healing of the invalid at Bethesda, and beneath each one describe how it illustrates the circumstances of our salvation (see Ephesians 2:1-3, 2:8-9)

The man's physical condition:  
-Illustrates:  
.....

The part the man played in his healing:  
-Illustrates:  
.....

Who took the initiative:  
-Illustrates:  
.....

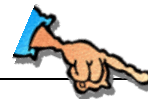
The man's "worthiness" to be healed  
-Illustrates:  
.....



8. How does the way in which the invalid refers to Jesus differ from the way in which the Jewish authorities refer to him?

9. How do you explain this? (vv. 5:11, 12)

## **Discovery and Revelation - Your thoughts here...**



10. In what ways do people today come to Jesus seeking something other than salvation?

11. Do you find it easy or difficult to rest on God's word when circumstances seem to contradict it?

12. When have you done so and how did it turn out?

13. In light of the circumstances behind the healing of the invalid, how would you evaluate this view of salvation:  
*"We do our best and God does the rest."*

10.

11.

12.

13.



Have a Meaningful and  
Wonder-filled Christmas!  
-Les