

SETTING IN BIBLICAL NARRATIVE

OPENING QUESTION

What is the favourite place you have ever been?

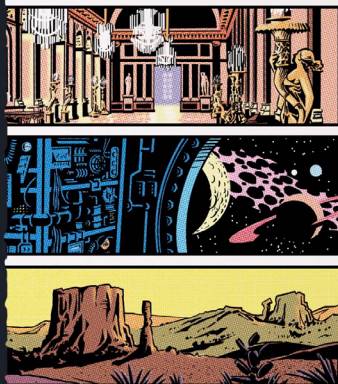
LEVEL 1

VIDEO

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

SETTING IN BIBLICAL NARRATIVE

EPISODE 7



Setting in biblical narrative

by The Bible Project

Question:

Setting is referred to a lot in the Bible. How many different settings can you think of? Discuss with those around you what you know happens there and what you think that place might represent.

LEVEL 2

BIBLE

Luke 5:12-16 (NRSVCE) Jesus Cleanses a Leper

Once, when he was in one of the cities, there was a man covered with leprosy.[b] When he saw Jesus, he bowed with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean." **13** Then Jesus[c] stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, "I do choose. Be made clean." Immediately the leprosy[d] left him. **14** And he ordered him to tell no one. "Go," he said, "and show yourself to the priest, and, as Moses commanded, make an offering for your cleansing, for a testimony to them." **15** But now more than ever the word about Jesus[e] spread abroad; many crowds would gather to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. **16** But he would withdraw the wilderness and pray.

Question:

The wilderness of the Bible is an in-between place where ordinary life is suspended, identity shifts, and new possibilities emerge. It is often in the wilderness people are able to comprehend the will of God and feel His presence more profoundly. Is there anywhere you feel particularly close to God and peaceful?

LEVEL 3

CATECHISM

Can you pray anywhere?

Yes, you can pray anywhere. Nevertheless, a Catholic should always look for those places God “dwells” in a special way. Above all these are Catholic Churches, where our Lord is present in the Tabernacle under the appearance of bread. (CCC 2691,2696)

Question:

What is it about spiritual and holy places that makes you able to perceive the presence of God more clearly? What would you need to do to make a normal room feel like a special holy place?