

TABGHA

Tabgha is situated on the north-western shore of the Sea of Galilee. Some Christian historians have surmised that Jesus may have come here when looking for solitude to meditate, especially since it was close to the Galilee city of Kfar Nahum (Capernaum). Tabgha is considered the site of two of Jesus' miracles: the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, and the place Jesus appeared the fourth time after His resurrection (John 21:1-24).

The Gospels read that when Jesus was told the fate of His cousin, John the Baptist, "He withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place." But the populace followed Jesus on foot from nearby towns and Jesus, who saw the crowd that had gathered, preached all day and healed their sick. "As evening approached, the disciples came to Him and said, 'This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.'" Jesus then performed a miracle, feeding five thousand men "besides women and children" with only five loaves of bread and two fish (Matthew 14:13-21). The serene "Church of the Multiplication" was reconstructed over the Byzantine sanctuary on the site, with part of the ancient mosaic floor on display.

