

The Animals' CHRISTMAS

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This book belongs to

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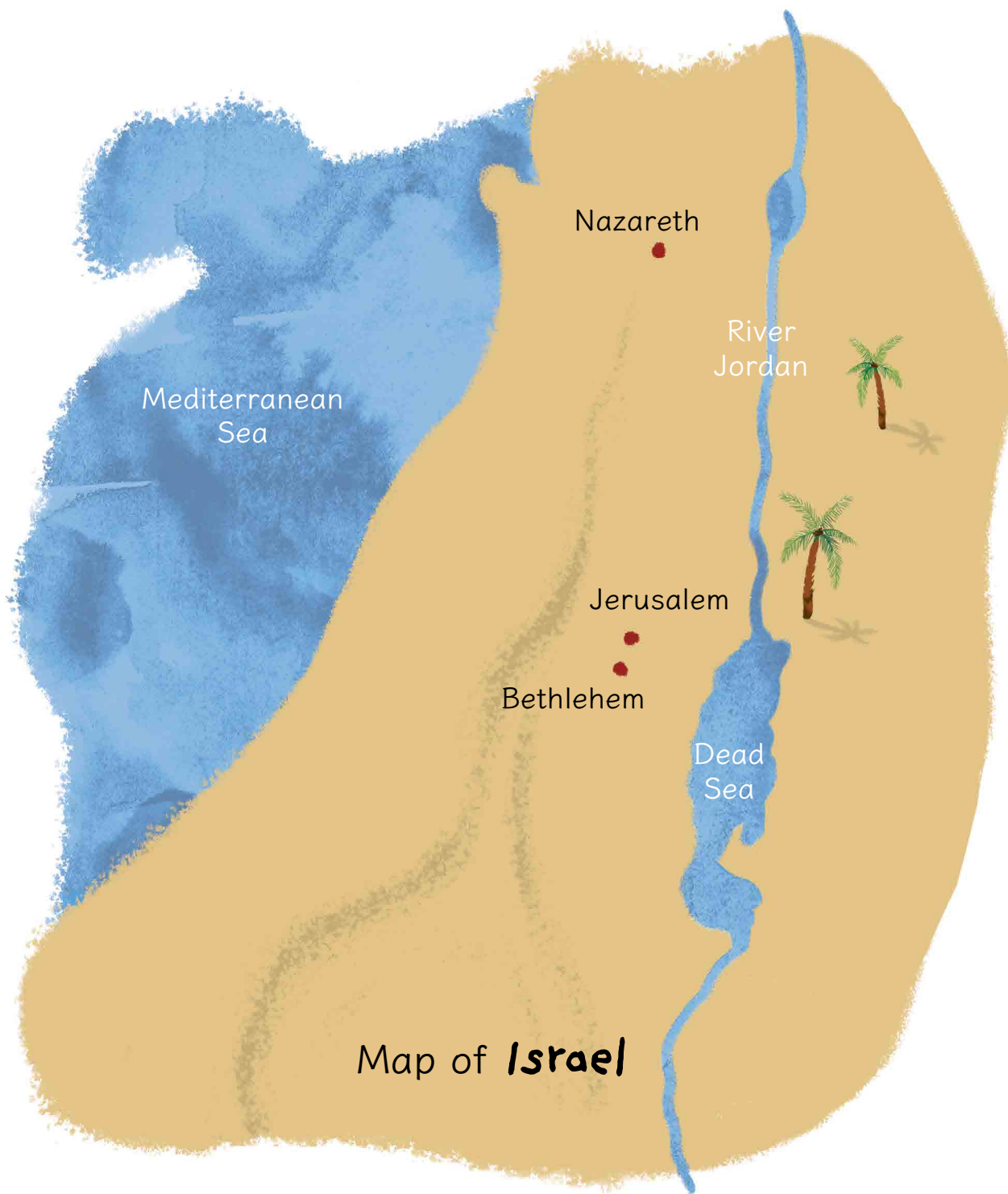
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For our four very special grandchildren:
Liam, Kieran, Alexander and Olivia



Nazareth

River
Jordan

Mediterranean
Sea

Jerusalem

Bethlehem

Dead
Sea

Map of **Israel**

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Mary's house in **Nazareth**

Sarah the Spider

Hello, I'm Sarah the Spider. I live in the best house in Nazareth. It isn't the biggest house. It isn't the fanciest house. It's the house where Mary lives with her mum and dad.





Mary helps with the mending and baking and cleaning. She is good at these things, but her mum and dad don't think she is good at cleaning. That's because she **never, never, NEVER** sweeps away my web. Mary knows I need a web to catch my food, and she knows I will keep the house free from flies. And that is why I live in the best house in Nazareth.



One day Mary was sitting down quietly, mending a hole in her cloak, when there was a sudden **brightness shining** all around. It wasn't from the sun. It was an angel. And guess what? This beautiful angel, **all shimmering with joy**, knelt down at Mary's feet and kissed them.

“Hail, Mary,
full of grace!”
the angel said.



And then he gave Mary a very important message.
I know it was important, because an angel
wouldn't normally come from heaven with an
ordinary message. The angel told Mary she was to
have a **baby** who would **save the world**.