



MEETING FORMAT

Specific order is up to the discretion of the Tribe Leader

1. Fellowship – 15 minutes
2. Tribe Talk video - 15-20 minutes
3. Group Discussion – 30-45 minutes (see the questions below)
4. Prayer – 15 minutes
5. Food or Snacks – 30 minutes

Total Time: 1.5-2.0 hours

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ISRAEL

Session Summary: God is God of all the earth. However, when it comes to the Land of Israel, Scripture has some unique things to say. Israel is the place Jesus lived, died, and it is the place He will return to. There is plenty of debate about how Christians should think about Israel. But there is no arguing that Israel is a critical topic in the Bible.

LEADER GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How to Approach the Discussion Questions below: You will probably not have time to discuss all the discussion questions below. That is okay. The bolded questions are the key questions that are best to cover at a minimum. And if you can get to the rest of the questions, that's great. Enjoy!

Leader Group Discussion Questions:

- 1. How many of you have been to Israel? If you have been, share two ways that it impacted you. If you have not been, share two things you would like to experience in Israel.**

2. **Rabbi Jason described sensing *the tangible goodness of God* in Israel. That is a common feeling people have in the Holy Land. Why do you think so many people have this experience?**
3. What are some things stated in Scripture about Israel that make it unique compared to other places on earth?
4. Read Psalm 122:6-9 as a group. What does it mean to *pray for the peace of Jerusalem*? In what ways does Jerusalem need prayer today?
5. Have you heard Bible teachers communicate that there is no future significance to the Land of Israel? If so, how did they make this case?
6. Read Ezekiel 36:24-28. This is a promise that God will gather the Jewish people back to Israel. What are some ways that Christians can work with God to help this prophecy materialize?
7. Based on what Rabbi Jason said, how would you explain the significance of Jerusalem to a friend if you only had 60 seconds to do so?
8. **What can we learn about the character and heart of God through His relationship to the Land of Israel?**

KEY TERMS

Israel – This term can refer to the land or people of Israel. It is sometimes used interchangeably with *the Jewish people*. Typically, *Israel* refers to the geographical land God promised to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The term *Israel* occurs over 2,500 times in the Bible.

Jerusalem – The capital city of Israel. This is the location where Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac (see Genesis 22). It is also the location of the 1st and 2nd Temples, which

stood during Bible times. Jerusalem is what Jesus called *the city of the great King* (Matthew 5:35) because it represents the place where the great kings of Israel ruled. And it is the city Jesus will rule from when He returns.

Holy Land – The land of Israel is commonly referred to as *the holy land* because of the special status God assigned to it. The holy land is unique in that God associated His faithfulness to this piece of real estate, which is about the size of the state of New Jersey. See Psalm 105:8-11.