



# STS Students & Partners

## Study Trip to Israel – 25.07

July 10-24, 2025<sup>1</sup>

Teacher/Leaders:  
 Dr. Doug Bookman  
 Dr. Tim Miller  
 Dr. Clayton Schultz

Licensed Guide / Driver: Nabil Kort

**HOTEL WEBSITES**  
 Gilgal: www.hotelgilgal.com  
 En Gev: www.eingev.com  
 Masada: www.iyha.org.il  
 Gloria: www.gloria-hotel.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																				
Trip offered on Land-Only Basis <b>Travelers secure their own flights</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Donor Partner Land Cost</td> <td>Formal STS Ministry Partner &amp; Student Spouse Land Cost</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>\$3,400</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>\$1,750</b></td> </tr> </table>				Donor Partner Land Cost	Formal STS Ministry Partner & Student Spouse Land Cost	<b>\$3,400</b>	<b>\$1,750</b>	July 10 <u>Depart for Jordan</u>	July 11 <u>Arrive in Jordan</u>  ON Amman	July 12 <b><u>Jordan Valley / Jabbok</u></b>  Tel Kharrar (Baptism Site, Elijah Hill) Damia (Tel Adam) Deir Alla (Succoth) Peniel Jerash  ON Amman																
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July 13 <b><u>Jordan Valley/Dead Sea</u></b>  Amman Citadel Madaba Mt. Nebo Hisban (Heshbon) Beth Peor Abel Shittim  ON Dead Sea Resort	July 14 <b><u>Cities of the Plain</u></b>  Bab-edh-Drah (Sodom) Numeira (Gomorrah) Es-Safi (Zoar) Feifa (Admah/Zeboiim) Lot's Cave Al Sala (Sela) Busayra (Bozrah)  ON Petra	July 15 <b><u>Petra</u></b>  Petra Aqaba [Snorkel \$40]  ON Aqaba	July 16 <b><u>Negev /Shephelah</u></b>  Cross Border Timnah Beer-Sheva [drive-by] Tel Lachish Elah Valley / Azekah Sorek Val /Beth-Shemesh  ON: Tel Aviv/Joppa	July 17 <b><u>Coastal Plains &amp; The Jezreel Valley</u></b>  Caesarea Maritima Mt Carmel (Muhra) [Overview: Jezreel Valley] 2 <sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb Tel Megiddo Mt Gilboa / Jezreel [Ein Harod Overlook] Nazareth: Mt Precipice  ON: Nazareth-Golden Crown	July 18 <b><u>Sea of Galilee</u></b>  Lower Galilee (drive thru) HoH / Mt Arbel (Hike) Magdala / Migdol Church of Beatitudes Capernaum Tabgha Nof Ginnosar Boat Ride  ON: Nof Ginnosar	July 19 <b><u>Northern Galilee / Huleh Valley</u></b>  Chorazim Tel Hazor Huleh Valley Tel Dan Banias Falls Caesarea Philippi/Banias Golan Heights/Syria overlook  ON: Nof Ginnosar																				
July 20  <b><u>Jordan Rift &amp; Up to Jerusalem</u></b>  Beth Shan Border Road Route Tel Jericho Qumran / Cave 1 [hike] Gibeah of Saul [Cent Benj Plateau – overlook] Aliyah  PM: Visit to Western Wall ON: Gloria Hotel-Jerusalem	July 21  <b><u>Jerusalem / OT</u></b> [Cardo Walk-through] [Bar-Mitzvah watch] Hezekiah's Broad Wall City of David Hezekiah's Tunnel  <b><u>Jerusalem / NT</u></b> Davidson Center [Southern Step Excavations] Holy Sepulcher Church  PM: Kotel Tunnel Tour ON: Gloria Hotel	July 22 Temple Mount [7:00 am] <b><u>Judea/Ephraim/Samaria</u></b>  Ephraim Hill Country Shiloh Beitin / Bethel / Luz Et-Tell / Ai Burj Beitin [Ai on east, Bethel on west] Geba-Michmash overlook Israel Museum  ON: Gloria Hotel	July 23  <b><u>Jesus' Final Hours</u></b>  Cenacle/Upper room Priestly Villa [Jewish Interrogation] Stone Pavement [Roman Trials]  AFTERNOON FREE Farewell Dinner Depart for airport <sup>2</sup> – time per your arrangement ON: Aboard an airplane	July 24  <b>Travel Home</b>  <b>Important Note:</b> Schedule your departure time here – as close as possible to <b>midnight, Wednesday, July 23 –</b>  <b>SEE FOOTNOTE 2 BELOW</b>	July 25  <b>FYI - Festivals (Hebrew year 5785)</b> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Purim</td><td>Mar 14, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Passover/Pesach</td><td>Apr 13, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Easter</td><td>Apr 20, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Pentecost/Shavuot</td><td>June 2, 2025 Tish'a B'Av</td></tr> <tr><td>Rosh Hashana</td><td>Aug 9, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Yom Kippur</td><td>Sept 23, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Tabernacles</td><td>Oct 2, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Simchat Torah</td><td>Oct 7-13, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Chanukah</td><td>Oct 15, 2025</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Dec 15-22, 2025</td></tr> </table>	Purim	Mar 14, 2025	Passover/Pesach	Apr 13, 2025	Easter	Apr 20, 2025	Pentecost/Shavuot	June 2, 2025 Tish'a B'Av	Rosh Hashana	Aug 9, 2025	Yom Kippur	Sept 23, 2025	Tabernacles	Oct 2, 2025	Simchat Torah	Oct 7-13, 2025	Chanukah	Oct 15, 2025		Dec 15-22, 2025	July 26
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<sup>1</sup> **COST [LAND ONLY]: \$3,400.** Note that this is a trip of 15 days, which includes 3 days of travel, 4 full study days in Jordan and 8 full study days in Israel, with guide/teachers throughout the trip. All lodging, travel in-country, entrance fees and incidentals paid are included in this cost. **This cost does *not* cover: airfare, travel from and to the airport in Israel, lunches or any personal items or souvenirs (gifts, snacks, personal travel, etc.).** Single Room Supplement: \$800.

**RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:** This study trip will demand more of the traveler than the ordinary tourist trip, both in terms of daily schedule and physical exertion. Our days will begin early and involve several hours of study and hiking. It is important that each traveler be capable of walking 6 to 9 miles a day, often up and down steep hills, and almost certainly in warm to hot weather. Finally, remember that you must be in possession of a valid and unexpired passport [i.e., which does not expire within six months of the departure date].

### DEADLINES

☞ A non-refundable deposit of \$250 asap to secure a spot; the balance paid by June 1, 2025.

☞ Cancellations: full refund less deposit & administrative costs

**CONTACT INFO:** If you would like further information, please contact:

- Thomas Ross, Shepherds Seminary, 6501 Tryon Rd, Cary NC 27518 [O: 919.573.1552]; e-mail: [tross@shepherds.edu](mailto:tross@shepherds.edu)
- Clayton Schultz, The West Institute, 4801 Quarter Horse Dr, Laramie WY 82070 [O: 307.742.6781]; [claytonschultz@yahoo.com](mailto:claytonschultz@yahoo.com)
- Doug Bookman, 115 Strathburgh Lane, Cary NC 27518 [O: 919.573.1551; M: 616.713.8999]; e-mail: [doug.bookman@gmail.com](mailto:doug.bookman@gmail.com)

**DEPOSIT:** If you would like to register for the *Study Trip*, please send your deposit of \$250 to the underlined address above. Make the check payable to “Shepherds Theological Seminary” and put “25.07-STJ Jordan/Israel Trip” on the memo line. Please be careful to include the following information on separate note in the envelope:

- 1) the full name of all travelers (as the name appears on his/her passport)
- 2) complete mailing address(es)
- 3) phone numbers (day & evening)
- 4) e-mail addresses
- 5) passport number(s) & expiration date(s)
- 6) any questions or special concerns you may have

**INSURANCE:** It is recommended that travelers consider purchasing **accident/health** and/or **travel insurance** for the trip. If your health insurance does not adequately cover you when abroad, consider short-term policies that cover only the time you are in Israel; they are quite affordable, and they do provide thorough and accessible coverage.

- Faye - ([Faye - Whole-Trip Travel Insurance](#))
  - A helpful broker site to shop for short term health/accident/cancellation insurance
- The Swiftest - [7 Best Israel Travel Insurance Plans for US Citizens \(2025\)](#)
  - Another site which lists recommended companies
- Craig Dunning - <https://discipleshiptravel.com>
  - A close friend of Doug’s who offers stand alone trip cancellation insurance.
  - Find the banner “Need Travel Insurance” (right side of page), click and follow the prompts.

**INSURED AMOUNT:** For travel insurance, **do *not* insure the land-cost**, as that will be refunded to you if you are unable to go for any reason. You are wise to insure the cost of air passage, as the airlines are reluctant to refund that cost.

<sup>2</sup> **DEPARTURE:** ***Please schedule your departure as close to midnight as possible on Wed night, July 23, or as early as possible on Thursday (July 24).*** Several airlines have departures close to midnight, which works best as it gives us a full day on Wednesday, saves us paying for a room on Wednesday evening. Your room will possibly be available to you as late as you need it on that Wednesday; we’ll settle this when we are there. Once we know the various departure times, we will work to arrange either taxis and/or a bus to get us to the airport in plenty of time for the various departure times. Again, plan to cover the cost of the trip from Jerusalem to the airport, as that is not covered in the cost of the trip.