

<div><div>STS</div><div>Equipping Servant Leaders</div></div>		<div>STS Students &amp; Partners</div> <div>Study Trip to Israel – 25.12<sup>1</sup></div> <div>December 6-18 2025<sup>2</sup></div>			<div>Teacher/Leaders:</div> <div>Dr. Doug Bookman</div> <div>Dr. Clayton Schultz</div> <div>Dr. Peter Goeman</div> <div>Licensed Guide / Driver: Nabil Kort</div>		<div>HOTEL WEB-SITES</div> <div>Gilgal: <a href="http://www.hotelgilgal.com">www.hotelgilgal.com</a></div> <div>En Gev: <a href="http://www.eingev.com">www.eingev.com</a></div> <div>Masada: <a href="http://www.iyha.org.il">www.iyha.org.il</a></div> <div>Gloria: <a href="http://www.gloria-hotel.com">www.gloria-hotel.com</a></div>																					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																						
November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6																						
	<div>Trip offered on Land-Only Basis</div> <div>Travelers secure their own air flights</div> <div>Donor Partner Land Cost: \$3,600</div> <div>Ministry Partner Land Cost: \$1,800</div> <div>Please read completely &amp; carefully all the information on both sides of this sheet</div>				<div>Optional Early Departure Date<sup>3</sup></div> <div>Friday</div>	<div>Depart for Israel</div> <div>by the flight of your choice and arrangement.<sup>4</sup></div>																						
December 7	December 8	December 9	December 10	December 11	December 12	December 13																						
<div>Arrive</div> <div>Ben Gurion Airport,</div> <div>Tel Aviv, Israel</div> <div>Make your way to our hotel in Tel Aviv<sup>5</sup></div> <div>Option: Independence Hall (?)</div> <div>Option: Joppa Walk</div> <div>Introductions &amp; Preview (after evening meal)</div> <div>ON: SeaNet Hotel Tel Aviv</div>	<div>Coastal Plains &amp; The Jezreel Valley</div> <div>Caesarea Maritima</div> <div>Mt Carmel (Muhraka)</div> <div>[Overview: Jezreel Valley]</div> <div>2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb</div> <div>Tel Megiddo</div> <div>Mt Gilboa / Jezreel</div> <div>[Ein Harod Overlook]</div> <div>Nazareth: Mt Precipice</div> <div>ON: Golden Crown-Nazareth</div>	<div>Sea of Galilee</div> <div>Lower Galilee (drive thru)</div> <div>HoH / Mt Arbel (Hike)</div> <div>Magdala / Migdol</div> <div>Church of Beatitudes</div> <div>Capernaum</div> <div>Tabgha</div> <div>Nof Ginnosar</div> <div>Boat Ride</div> <div>ON Ron Beach – Sea of Galilee</div>	<div>Northern Galilee / Huleh Valley</div> <div>Chorazim</div> <div>Tel Hazor</div> <div>Huleh Valley</div> <div>Tel Dan</div> <div>Banias Falls</div> <div>Caesarea Philippi/Banias</div> <div>Golan Heights/Syria overlook</div> <div>Qazrin</div> <div>ON: Ron Beach</div>	<div>Jordan Rift</div> <div>Beth Shan</div> <div>Border Road Route</div> <div>Jordan River Site</div> <div>Tel Jericho</div> <div>Qumran / Cave 1 [hike]</div> <div>En Gedi (overlook)</div> <div>Masada</div> <div>Dead Sea Swim</div> <div>ON: Vert Hotel – Dead Sea</div>	<div>Negev /Shephelah</div> <div>Arad / Beer-Sheva [drive-by]</div> <div>Tel Lachish</div> <div>Elah Valley / Azekah</div> <div>Sorek Val /Beth-Shemesh</div> <div>Up to Jerusalem</div> <div>Aliyah from the West</div> <div>PM: Visit to Western Wall</div> <div>ON: Gloria Hotel – Jaffa Gate</div>	<div>Intro to Jerusalem</div> <div>Gibeah of Saul</div> <div>[Cent Benj Plateau – overlook]</div> <div>Israel Museum:</div> <div>2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Model</div> <div>Shrine of the Book</div> <div>Archeological Museum</div> <div>Mt Scopus / Mt of Olives</div> <div>Walk to Gethsemane</div> <div>Haas Promenade</div> <div>PM: Optional Worship Service</div>																						
December 14	December 15	December 16	December 17	December 18	December 19	December 20																						
<div>Judea/Ephraim/Samaria</div> <div>[The West Bank]</div> <div>Drive thru Ephraim Hill Ctry</div> <div>Sychar/Jacob's well</div> <div>Shechem/Tel Balata</div> <div>Shiloh</div> <div>»Beitin / Bethel / Luz</div> <div>Et-Tell / Ai</div> <div>Burj Beitin</div> <div>[Ai on east, Bethel on west]</div> <div>Geba-Michmash overlook</div> <div>ON: Gloria Hotel</div>	<div>Jerusalem / OT</div> <div>[Along the way:</div> <div>Bar-Mitzvah watch</div> <div>Hezekiah's</div> <div>Broad Wall</div> <div>City of David</div> <div>Warren's Shaft /</div> <div>Hezekiah's Tunnel /</div> <div>Pool of Siloam</div> <div>AFTERNOON: FREE</div> <div>ON: Gloria Hotel</div>	<div>Jerusalem / NT</div> <div>Temple Mount [7:00 am]</div> <div>[Cardo Walk-through]</div> <div>Davidson Center</div> <div>[Southern Step Excavations]</div> <div>Holy Sepulcher Church</div> <div>AFTERNOON – FREE</div> <div>PM: Kotel TunnelTour</div> <div>ON: Gloria Hotel</div>	<div>Jesus' Final Hours</div> <div>Cenacle/Upper room</div> <div>Priestly Villa</div> <div>[Jewish Interrogation]</div> <div>Stone Pavement</div> <div>[Roman Trials]</div> <div>AFTERNOON FREE</div> <div>Farewell Dinner</div> <div>Depart for airport<sup>6</sup></div> <div>– time per your arrangement</div> <div>ON: Aboard an airplane</div>	<div>Travel Home</div> <div>Important Note: Schedule your departure time here – as close as possible to midnight, Wednesday, December 17 –</div> <div>Either very late on Wed, December 17 or as early as possible on Thursday, December 18.</div> <div>ON: In your own bed!</div>	<div>FYI - Festivals (Hebrew year 5785)</div> <table><tr><td>Chanukah</td><td>Dec 15-22, 2025</td></tr><tr><td>Purim</td><td>Mar 3, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Passover/Pesach</td><td>Apr 2, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Easter</td><td>Apr 5, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Pentecost/Shavuot</td><td>May 22, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Tish'a B'Av</td><td>July 23, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Rosh Hashana</td><td>Sept 12, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Yom Kippur</td><td>Sept 21, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Tabernacles</td><td>Sept 25-Oct 2, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Simchat Torah</td><td>Oct 3-4, 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Chanukah</td><td>Dec 5-12, 2026</td></tr></table>		Chanukah	Dec 15-22, 2025	Purim	Mar 3, 2026	Passover/Pesach	Apr 2, 2026	Easter	Apr 5, 2026	Pentecost/Shavuot	May 22, 2026	Tish'a B'Av	July 23, 2026	Rosh Hashana	Sept 12, 2026	Yom Kippur	Sept 21, 2026	Tabernacles	Sept 25-Oct 2, 2026	Simchat Torah	Oct 3-4, 2026	Chanukah	Dec 5-12, 2026
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<sup>1</sup> **Cost [Land-Only]: \$3,600 / Ministry Partner or Student-Spouse Land Cost: \$1,800**

- This is a trip of 13 days, which includes 10 *full study days in Israel*, with guide/teacher throughout the trip, all lodging, travel, entrance fees and incidentals paid.
  - **NOT** included in the cost of the trip: airfare, travel from and to the airport in Israel, lunches, personal items (gifts, snacks, personal travel, etc.)
  - Single Room Supplement: \$1,000.

<sup>2</sup> **Restrictions and Requirements:**

- You must be in possession of a valid and unexpired PASSPORT [i.e., which does not expire within six months of the return date]
- 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. Travelers must be capable of walking 5 to 8 miles a day, often up and down steep hills, and possibly in rainy weather

<sup>3</sup> **The group will gather in Tel Aviv on Sunday, December 7, 2025.** However, if you would like to have a day to recoup, you are welcome to arrive a day (or more, for that matter) early. You must make those arrangements yourself.

<sup>4</sup> **Arrival in Israel on Sunday will mean departing the US on Saturday.** Select any carrier, but be careful to *schedule your arrival sometime on (or before) Sunday, December 7*. The earlier you arrive, the more time you will have to gather yourself before we start out early Monday morning.

<sup>5</sup> **Getting from the airport to the first night's hotel.** The least complicated and most dependable way of getting from the airport to the hotel in Tel Aviv is simply to take a taxi. There are shuttle services, but they are no cheaper (in my experience) and they involve a level of complexity and uncertainty (e.g., in case of flight delays) which are simply not worth the effort. To secure a taxi could hardly be easier or more dependable. After passing customs and picking up your luggage, proceed through the Greeters Hall and exit at Gate #3; turn left at the sidewalk, find the dispatcher's station and ask for a taxi. (Have the address available.)

<sup>6</sup> **Schedule your departure as close to midnight as possible on Wed. night (Dec 17), or as early as possible on Thurs. (Dec 18).**

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.

**Deadline Dates**

- **September 1:** Application Deadline
  - Access the form here: [Israel Study Trip Application](#)
  - This step does not obligate your participation nor secure your spot on the trip.
- **September 8:** Formal Trip Acceptance Notification
- **October 1:** Trip Payment Due (see acceptance email for instructions)
  - Note: In case of trip cancelation by STS, travelers will receive a refund for the trip. Certain hotels charge STS an early reservation fee. If the trip is unable to go due to war or other unforeseen circumstances, any early reservation fees not reimbursed to STS will be the responsibility of the traveler and not included in the refund.
- **November 1:** Traveler Information Form
  - Purchase plane tickets
  - Fill out Traveler Information Form
  - Access Moodle Site for study trip resources

**Contact information for trip leaders:**

**Sarah Jane Jameson**, Shepherds Seminary, 6051 Tryon Rd, Cary NC 27518 [919.573.1574]; [sjameson@shepherds.edu](mailto:sjameson@shepherds.edu)

**Clayton Schultz**, The West Institute, 4801 Quarter Horse Dr, Laramie WY 82070 [307.742.6781]; [claytonschultz@yahoo.com](mailto:claytonschultz@yahoo.com)

**Doug Bookman**, [O: 919.573.1551; M: 616.713.8999]; [dbookman@shepherds.edu](mailto:dbookman@shepherds.edu)