

The Society for Biblical Studies
10 Day Fact Finding & Peace Studies Program in Israel and Palestine
23 June—2 July 2026
2—7 July 2026
Syllabus

Objectives:

- To gain understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, its impact on neighboring countries, possibilities for resolution
- To learn through conversation and dialogue with Israelis and Palestinians
- To explore the dynamics of conflict and examine the fundamentals of conflict resolution
- To explore the religious dimensions of conflict
- To examine models of effective advocacy

Itinerary: (subject to substitutions and change due to local circumstances, including hosts's schedules, etc.)

Day 1 23.6, Tu	Depart USA
Day 2 24.6, W	Arrive Tel Aviv, transfer to hotel, orientation and introduction overnight in Taybeh
Day 3 25.6, Th	Theme: Palestinian Christian Resistance & Activism Field trip: Fr. Bashar Fawadleh, Church of the Redeemer, Taybeh, Friend's School Ramallah, 2:00 PM Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pastor Munther Isaac, visit Taybeh brewery (time permitting) 6:00 PM video call—debriefing overnight in Taybeh
Day 4 26.6, F	Theme: Palestinian Nationalism & Palestinian Liberation Theology Field trip: 9:00 AM Beit El—meeting with Tovia Victor, 2:00 PM Sabeel Palestinian Liberation Theology Center, meeting with Omar Haramy 6:00 PM video call—Christian Zionism overnight in Taybeh
Day 5 27.6, Sa	Theme: The Negev & Israel's Bedouin Field trip: TBD U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem, meeting with Ambassador Mike Huckabee, 2:00 PM Al Sira (Israeli Bedouin Village) meeting with Khalil al Amour overnight in Bethlehem
Day 6	Theme: West Bank Realities

28.6, Su Field trip: worship at Christmas Church, Tent of Nations, the South Hebron Hills, Al Arub refugee camp (time permitting)
overnight in Bethlehem

Day 7 Theme: Progressive Israeli Perspectives
29.6, M Field trip: 9:00 AM Gershon Baskin, Rabbi Barry Leff, 12:30 PM lunch and conversation with Rabbi Jeremy Milgrom, Reut Macabbim 5:00 PM Luiz Aberbuj (Breaking the Silence, advocacy)
Forum TBD
overnight in Bethlehem

Day 8 Theme: Hebron & Competing Narratives
30.6, Tu Field trip: 9:00 AM Issa Amro, 1:00 PM Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem. 3:00 PM Betselem, Sarit Michaeli
overnight in Bethlehem

Day 9 Theme: The Eye of the Storm
1.7, W Field trip: Harem esh Sharrif, WAQF/the Islamic Trust, transfer to Ben Gurion

Day 10 Return to USA
2.7, Th

5 Day Elective: The Tent of Nations—Advocacy and Solidarity

Day 10—14 Volunteer at The Tent of Nations
2.7, Th— Participate in a variety of tasks and chores, mission as Christian Presence and
4.7 M Solidarity

Day 15 Return to USA
5.7, Tu

- Worship will be arranged in Nazareth and/or in Jerusalem with indigenous Christians.
- Meetings indicated in the itinerary are subject to change and final confirmation. Meetings with indigenous people are always subject to change due to local circumstances. Appropriate substitutions will be made in the event a speaker is unavailable.
- Daily itinerary is subject to local conditions, including weather, opening and closing hours, holidays, flight schedules, etc. Unavoidable modifications may be made due to local circumstances or to optimize the itinerary and these changes are not any basis for cancellation.
- Morning and evening fora on various topics will be arranged throughout the program