



## 2020 Israel with WCIC

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### PROGRAM ITINERARY | March 16-26, 2020

#### Day 1 – Monday, March 16

Depart from the U.S.

#### Day 2 – Tuesday, March 17

Arrive in Israel. Overnight in Netanya.

#### Day 3 – Wednesday, March 18

We will begin our morning at **Caesarea** by the Mediterranean Sea. Here we will focus our attention on Judaism and the spread of the gospel in the first century. We will specifically highlight the story of Peter and Cornelius. Next, we will visit **Mount Carmel** and discuss its location within the context of the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. Then, we will proceed to **Nazareth** for a discussion on the faith of Mary and Joseph as they receives news from the angel that Mary will give birth to Jesus. Additionally, we will see a cave-style home from the first century, which will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss the birth story as well as the important role both Mary and Joseph played in raising and teaching Jesus. We will visit Mt. Precipice for an overview of many biblical stories. Finally, we will finish our day at the **Arbel Synagogue**. Here we will focus on the Lord's prayer, its meaning, and its role in our lives. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

#### Day 4 – Thursday, March 19

We begin our day heading north to **Tel Dan**. The ancient site of the tribe of Dan. After, we will make our way to **Caesarea Philippi**. We will end our day at **Har Bental**, the overlook into Syria. We will have a discussion about the 6-day war, and the story of the Damascus Road. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

#### Day 5 – Friday, March 20

We will begin our morning at the **Jordan River**, where those who desire to do so can be baptized. We will then proceed to **Korazin**, one of the cities Jesus rejected. Next we visit **Katzrin**, a reconstructed first-century village. Here we will further unveil what it was like to live in the days of Jesus. From there, we will visit the ancient town of **Capernaum**, which is where Jesus based his ministry and where Peter is from. Then we will make one last stop to **Magdala**, where we will see the excavation of a synagogue from the first century. With the site in view, we will discuss the role of women in the synagogue. Lastly, we will end the evening with a beautiful boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight by the Sea of Galilee.

#### Day 6 – Saturday, March 21

We will begin our day at Herod's palace, **Masada**. Here we will discuss the meaning of what Jesus meant by the phrase, "Kingdom of God (or Heaven)." We will also discuss the route Ruth took on her journey to Bethlehem. Afterwards, we will visit the waterfalls of **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul. From there, we will visit the site of **Qumran**, where many of the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. We will then have lunch and make our way to the Dead Sea for those who wish swim. On our way up to Jerusalem, we will stop at the **Wadi Qilt** (Jericho Road overlook) to discuss the Parable of the Good Samaritan and how this specific parable is crucial to understanding the core message of Jesus. Overnight in Jerusalem.

#### Day 7 – Sunday, March 22

This morning, we will begin our day at the **Israel Museum**. First, we will visit a Second Temple Model of Jerusalem, which provides an idea of how the city may have looked during the time of Jesus. Secondly, we will tour the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea scrolls are housed. After lunch, we will visit the **City of David** including **Hezekiah's Tunnel**. Overnight in Jerusalem.

**Day 8, Monday, March 23**

We then visit **Bethlehem**, the birth place of Jesus as well as Shepherds' Field. After lunch, we will head to **Yad Vashem**. Overnight in Jerusalem

**Day 9, Tuesday, March 24**

Our morning will begin at **Herod's Palace**, the location of Jesus' trial before Pilate. At this location, we will also be able to view, from a high place, the route Jesus took from the palace to the place where he was executed. As we travel the **ancient Via Dolorosa**. Following lunch in the Jewish Quarter, we will visit the **Gennath Gate**, which is likely the where Jesus would have exited the city walls before being executed and then head to the **Wohl Museum**. Here we will see high priestly mansions and consider the motivations of the chief priests in handing Jesus over to Pilate to be executed. Finally, we will end the day at the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, the traditional and archaeological place of Jesus's death and resurrection. Overnight in Jerusalem.

**Day 10 – Wednesday, March 25**

We will begin our final morning on the **Mount of Olives**, traveling down to **Dominus Fleuit** and the **Garden of Gethsemane**, where Jesus prayed before being arrested. From there, we will go to the **Western Wall** and continue our tour at the **Southern Temple Steps**, where we will discuss the events of Pentecost. Finally, we will end our trip together at a first-century rolling stone tomb for communion. We end our trip with a farewell dinner and then proceed to the Ben Gurion Airport for our departure from Israel.

**Day 11 – Thursday, March 26**

Arrive back to the U.S.