

Encountering Jesus

Exploring His Life and World



November 5 – November 17, 2026

Led by:

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Director of Ministry, Church of the Ascension (Pittsburgh PA)

We will trace the life of Jesus from his home in Galilee to Jerusalem, giving particular attention to the First Century Jewish context in which Jesus lived. Our goal is a better understanding of Jesus' ministry and a better application of His teachings for us today.



MVTI
MISSION VALLEY TRAVEL INC



IMPORTANT

ALL DEPOSITS ARE DUE JULY 7, 2026

FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

\$3,766 - Land Price

For individual airfare please email tours@mvti.us

\$750 – Land & Air Deposit (due at registration)
(Direct Deposit or Check)

IF PAYING WITH CREDIT CARD (3.5% fee):

\$776.25 – Land Deposit

Price is based on two persons sharing a double room.

Land price is based on a group of 15 people or more

Booking: Prices are good for **three weeks from the date they are quoted**. If not confirmed by the tour leader within three weeks, prices may have to be updated. In general, hotel prices cannot be guaranteed more than 6 months in advance. Shoresh reserves the right to amend prices of tours without prior notice in case of devaluations of the dollar, or in case of receiving new updated contract rates from suppliers

- Accommodation - Half-board (breakfast & dinner) in en-suite shared twin rooms, taxes & portage.
- Transportation - Bus and driver for touring and group transfers to and from airport.
- Guide - Licensed Christian/Messianic guide.
- Tips - Driver, Guide, Hotels.
- Guest speakers - (if specified).
- Entrance fees - Historical sites, museums, parks, etc.
- Study Materials.
- Services of US Travel Agent – Mission Valley Travel

***Not Included:** Airfare, visas, Travel Insurance (mandatory, rates listed below); lunches & snacks; individual activities on free days; individual transfers to/from the airport apart from the main group; wheelchairs; discretionary gift for guide and driver; personal discretionary spending.

Single Supplement: **\$1,265** (additional single room cost, limited availability)

Approximate Travel Insurance Pricing for US residents:

Trip Cost (Covers Up To)	Age Up to 30	Age 31-59	Age 60-70	Age 71-75	Age 76-79	Age 80+
\$4000	\$171	\$242	\$359	\$463	\$569	\$760

Travel Insurance Quote is APPROXIMATE.

Individual pricing is available upon request.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Thursday, 5 November 2026

DEPARTURE FROM USA

Day 2: Friday, 6 November 2026

ARRIVAL IN THE LAND OF PROMISE

Mid-morning we arrive at Ben Gurion Airport near **Tel Aviv**, where we will be met by our guide, Kira, and bus driver for the trip. We will leave the airport and travel to the ancient port city of **Jaffa** where Jonah tried to escape his calling to warn the people of Nineveh. We will also visit the location of Simon the Tanner's house, where Peter had the vision recorded in Acts 10. After our short visit, we will travel to our hotel, just up the coast, with a possible opportunity to stroll on the beach. We will have a meeting for introductions, some orientation, and prayer. Plan for an early night!



Overnight: Metropolitan Hotel, Mediterranean Coast

Day 3: Saturday, 7 November

SENT ON MISSION: Beginning at the End of the Story

We continue our journey at the fabulous ruins of the Herodian city of **Caesarea Maritima**, the site of the conversion of Cornelius and the location from which Paul set sail on his journey to Rome. We will have a full day exploring the magnificent ruins of Herod the Great's seaport, and the location from which the Christian message spread to the Gentile world. We'll again plan an earlier night so we can recover from jet lag and catch our breath for the days ahead.

Overnight: Metropolitan Hotel, Mediterranean Coast

Day 4: Sunday, 8 November

LIGHT TO THE NATIONS – Jews, Gentiles, and the Messiah

Today we travel north up the coast to **Mount Carmel**, with a spectacular view over the North of Israel, near the spot where Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal. Mount Carmel provides a vista over the Jezreel Valley including many places Jesus would have been familiar with. We continue to ancient **Nazareth**, Jesus' boyhood home and place of his early ministry. We will tour and eat lunch at **Nazareth Village**. We conclude the day at the newly discovered synagogue at **Magdala**, the hometown of Mary Magdalene



Overnight: Sofia Hotel, Tiberias

Day 5: Monday, 9 November

AROUND THE SEA OF GALILEE – Daily Life and Religion in the Time of Jesus

Our day will be spent visiting various sites around the Sea of Galilee as we try to picture daily life and religion in the First Century and seek to better understand the miracles and teachings of Jesus in his original Jewish context. We will start the day at **Chorazin**, the well-preserved ruins of a typical Galilean village, where we study village life, Jewish religion, and the Pharisees.

Our next stop will be the **Mount of Beatitudes**, traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount, where we will consider the Kingdom of God in Jesus' teachings. After a short walk or drive down the hill we will arrive at **Capernaum**, the town where Jesus lived during the majority of his ministry. At lovely **Tabgha**, which commemorates the multiplication of loaves and fish, and where Jesus met

the disciples after the resurrection, we will enjoy a contemplative time on the shore of the Lake. Later in the afternoon we will visit Kibbutz Ginosar to see the "**Jesus Boat**", a Galilean fishing boat from the First Century. From here we will set sail for a **boat ride on the Lake** to enjoy the views and some worship, prayer and reflective time. After dinner we will meet with a local believer.

Overnight: Sofia Hotel, Tiberias



Day 6: Tuesday, 10 November

NORTHERN ISRAEL – “Who Do Men Say That I Am?”

Today we explore Northern Israel, one of the most beautiful regions of the country. We will seek to understand what the Jewish people of 2,000 years ago expected of the Messiah, and how that was fulfilled in Jesus. We will travel by **Mt. Bental**, a lookout spot near the border with Syria and the area of the road to Damascus where the Apostle Paul met the Lord. Along the way we will pass Druze Villages. Travelling along the lower slopes of **Mount Hermon** – Israel’s highest mountain, and the most likely site of the Transfiguration - we will reach **Caesarea Philippi**, in the region where Peter made his famous confession that Jesus is the Messiah. Our final stop is the **Dan Nature Reserve**, where we see the incredible archaeological remains of the Old Testament city of Dan, including the city gate from the time of Abraham, and consider ancient Israel’s apostasy. We will also enjoy a pleasant walk by a stream and discuss the meaning of “living water” in the Hebrew Scriptures and Jesus’ teaching.

Overnight: Sofia Hotel, Tiberias

Day 7: Wednesday, 11 November

THE JORDAN VALLEY – “Will you follow me?”

Today we leave the Galilee and journey down the other side of the Sea of Galilee. At the **Jordan River**, we will discuss the ministry of John the Baptist and his relationship with Jesus. We continue down the Jordan Valley to the arid Judean Wilderness, passing by the region of **Jericho** – the oldest and lowest city on earth. Our last visit of the day will be **Qumran**, likely the home of the Essenes, a First Century Jewish sect which may have influenced early Christianity, and the site of the most exciting archaeological discovery ever made in Israel – the Dead Sea Scrolls. We will finish our afternoon by enjoying a float in the therapeutic mineral rich waters of the **Dead Sea**.



Overnight: David Dead Sea Resort and Spa Hotel

Day 8: Thursday, 12 November

THE JUDEAN DESERT - Seeking Refuge in the Wilderness

Our theme today is the wilderness and what it signified to the ancient Israelites. We begin our day at **Masada**, Herod the Great's magnificent fortress palace in the desert, and the last stand of the Zealots, a Jewish revolutionary group at the time of Jesus. From Masada we drive north to the beautiful subtropical oasis of **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul. Depending on conditions, we can walk into the nature reserve and possibly to the waterfalls. We may see some wildlife, including the furry rock badger and the graceful ibex. We will also discuss the temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness. At the end of the day, we will make the final ascent to **Jerusalem** – the City of the Great King. After dinner, a member of the CMJ Israel leadership team will lead us on a short stroll to a **rooftop panorama of the Old City** and then share some encouraging testimonies.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem



Day 9: Friday, 13 November

THE RESTORATION OF HOPE – A Garland Instead of Ashes

Today we study both a great tragedy and the wonder of the Lord's redemptive power. We will examine the systematic annihilation of six million Jews in the Nazi genocide, God coming to earth in the form of a man to save His people from their sins, and the loving witness of Christians committed to the Biblically prophesied physical restoration and spiritual rebirth of the Jewish people. After breakfast, we will enjoy a tour of the **Christ Church Heritage Centre** to learn about CMJ's 200-year history of ministry to the Jewish people. Next, we travel to **Yad VaShem**, the Israel Memorial Museum to the Holocaust. Here we examine the spiritual and theological roots of the most notorious genocide in history and the connection between the Church, Jesus and the Jewish people. From here we take a short drive to **Bethlehem**, where we will visit the **Church of the Nativity**, which marks the probable site of the birth of Jesus, and the "**Shepherd's Fields**" where the angels heralded the advent of Messiah.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 10: Saturday, 14 November

IN THE STEPS OF JESUS – Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Resurrection

Today we focus on sites related to the Biblical passages concerning Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. Our goal is to understand why he was crucified, how he was buried, and what it meant to the Jewish people of the First Century that he was raised from the dead. We begin our day with a panoramic overlook of Jerusalem from the **Mount of Olives**, the site of Jesus' ascension to heaven and his future second coming. After viewing a **tomb from the time of Jesus**, we will walk down the Mount of Olives to **Gethsemane**. Next, we cross the **Kidron Valley** and enter the Old City through **Stephen's Gate**, stopping to examine the remains of the **Pool of Bethesda**. We will continue to the **Monastery of the Zion Sisters** near the Ecco Homo Arch. From here we walk to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, the most likely site of the burial and resurrection of Jesus. This evening, we will expand our understanding of the role of the Lamb of God by celebrating a **Jewish Passover Seder meal** together, making Biblical connections to the "last supper" that Jesus shared with his disciples.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 11: Sunday, 15 November

FREE DAY IN JERUSALEM

Today is free for worship, rest, reflection, or shopping. Services of Worship at Christ Church are at 9:30am and 6:00pm. *Shoresh will provide a list of interesting options for those who want to explore on their own. Highly recommended is a visit to the City of David and Hezekiah's Tunnel. Self-guided tours are available. For the energetic, perhaps a walk on the walls of the Old City.*

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 12: Monday, 16 November

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS – The Temple at the Center

Today will be devoted to learning about Jerusalem in Jesus' day, when the Temple in Jerusalem was the center of Jewish life. We will study how worship was performed in the temple, the Sadducees and Jesus' attitude towards them, and generally enrich our insight into many important events in the gospels and book of Acts. An early start will take us up to the



Temple Mount (conditions permitting), where we'll consider some of Jesus' activities there, as well as the claims of Islam. After a visit to the **Western Wall** place of prayer, Judaism's most holy site, we will take a trip to the subterranean **Western Wall Tunnels** to walk at what was street level in the time of Jesus. We then make our way through the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City to see the **Herodian Villas**, the palatial mansions that were the home to the Sadducees, the ruling priesthood at the time of Jesus. We complete our day at the excavations near the base of the Temple Mount and discuss Pentecost on the **Southern Steps** where Jesus walked.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 13: Tuesday, 17 November

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

If the group leaves on an evening flight (TBD. Depart Jerusalem to Ben Gurion Airport.

Please register online via e-registration.

<https://shoresh.mvti.net/Chislaghi-2026>

**A non-refundable registration fee of \$35 per person
is required upon submitting registration**

IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE:

- Most days on this itinerary involve a regular amount of walking and/or climbing. Therefore, this trip cannot generally accommodate those who have significant difficulty with climbing stairs or walking half a mile at a time. Please be in contact with the trip leaders if you have any concerns about this.*
- Itinerary and accommodation subject to change if conditions necessitate. It is **mandatory** for each participant to have travel insurance to cover medical costs or trip cancellations.*