

What is Judaism?

Student Viewing Guide

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

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Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Directions

As you watch the video "What is Judaism?" take notes to answer the questions below. You may use bullet points or short phrases. Listen carefully and pause the video when your teacher indicates.

Part 1: Origins and Core Beliefs

1. When and where did Judaism begin?

When:

Where:

2. What is monotheism? Why was this idea revolutionary at the time?

Monotheism **means:**

It **was** **revolutionary** **because:**

3. Who was Abraham and what covenant did he make?

Abraham:

The **covenant:**

4. Briefly describe the journey of Abraham's descendants (use the flow chart):

5. What were the First and Second Temples and why were they important?

What:

Importance:

Part 2: Diaspora and Diversity

6. What happened in 70 AD that changed Jewish history?

7. Name three different types of Jewish communities that developed around the world:

a. _____ Location: _____

b. _____ Location: _____

c. _____ Location: _____

8. Even though Jewish communities around the world developed different customs, what do they all share?

Part 3: Practices and Values

9. Describe two Jewish holidays mentioned in the video:

Holiday #1: _____

What _____ it _____ celebrates:

Holiday #2: _____

What _____ it _____ celebrates:

10. List at least four Jewish values or principles mentioned in the video:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

11. How many Jews are there in the world today compared to the total world population?

Number of Jews: _____

Total world population: _____

Percentage: _____%

Reflection Questions

12. What does the video mean by calling Judaism an "ethno-religion"?

13. The video states: "They tried to kill us, they didn't succeed, let's eat." What does this quote tell you about Jewish perspective on history?

14. What is one thing that surprised you or that you found interesting in this video?

Vocabulary Check

Match each term with its definition:

- _____ 1. Covenant A. The scattering of Jews from their homeland
- _____ 2. Diaspora B. Belief in one God
- _____ 3. Monotheism C. Jewish day of rest, from Friday to Saturday evening
- _____ 4. Torah D. Relating to the origins of a people in a specific place
- _____ 5. Indigenous E. A sacred agreement
- _____ 6. Shabbat F. Hebrew Bible; sacred text of Judaism
- _____ 7. Resilience G. The ability to recover and endure despite challenges