

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM - 2015

Sundays, 3-5 PM

Taught by Rabbi Suzanne Singer

Session 1: January 11
Mitzvah and Covenant

Session 2: January 18
The Calendar (1): Shabbat and Prayer

Session 3: February 8
The Calendar (2): High Holy Days-- Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

Session 4: February 15
The Calendar (3): Purim and Chanukah

Session 5: March 8
The Calendar (4): Sukkot, Shavuot, Passover

Session 6: March 15
The Life Cycle (1) – Berit Milah, B'nai Mitzvah

Session 7: April 12
The Life Cycle (2) – Weddings and Funerals

Session 8: April 19
History (1) – From the Bible through the Rabbinic Period

Session 9: May 3
History (2) – The Holocaust and the State of Israel

Session 10: May 17
Jewish Texts: Torah, Talmud, Midrash

Session 11: June 7
Different Ideas of God in Judaism

Session 12: June 14
Reform Judaism

Suggested Books:

A Short History of the Jewish People: From Legendary Times to Modern Statehood by Raymond P. Scheindlin, Oxford University Press (2000)

Finding God: Selected Responses by Rifat Sonsino and Daniel B. Syme, URJ Press (2002)

The Jewish Home: A Guide for Jewish Living by Daniel B. Syme, URJ Press, (2003)

The Jewish Study Bible (featuring The Jewish Publication Society TANAKH Translation) by Adele Berlin, Marc Zvi Brettler, and Michael Fishbane, Oxford University Press, (2004).

To Life: A Celebration of Jewish Being and Thinking by Harold S. Kushner, Warner Books (1994).

If you are interested in conversion, these books are required. Additional requirements:

Choosing Judaism by Lydia Kukoff, URJ Press, (2005)

Schedule monthly meetings with Rabbi Singer

Attendance: six Friday night Shabbat services, one Bar/Bat Mitzvah Saturday morning, Community Seder

Completion of an open book, take home final exam

\$150 FOR NON-MEMBERS