

IJS-Lite Workshops

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I. IJS-Lite Workshops Description

IJS-Lite Workshops provide a fresh path to biblical understanding in an online virtual living-room-style atmosphere. The Friends of Israel's Institute of Jewish Studies has designed the various Workshops to provide an informative and relaxed overview of a Bible book, topic, or current trend relating to Israel, the Messiah, or Prophecy.

IJS-Lite Workshops are non-graded. The 3-week online format includes interactive faith-life lessons, course materials, and thought-provoking discussion questions, which are also easily adapted for use in the Local Church.

Workshops are discussion-based and Bible-centered. Although less intense than IJS academic courses, enthusiastic participation in discussions is an integral part of creating a meaningful experience for everyone involved. Therefore, each participant should be committed to participate wholeheartedly.

II. Workshop Format

A. Monday: Read

Brief weekly reading resources from the Bible and related FOI materials will provide the background for workshop discussions. Reading the recommended resources on Monday, prior to joining the discussion, will help keep posts on topic. (A digital subscription to *Israel My Glory* provides access to back issues. Other resources, if necessary, will be available in the FOI Online Bookstore.)

B. Tuesday: Answer

Several interactive questions will be posted at the beginning of each week. In order to keep the workshop moving, answers to the initial questions should be posted by Tuesday evening.

C. Wednesday & Thursday: Discuss

On Wednesday and Thursday, meaningful and polite discussion posts and replies are encouraged. As a rule of thumb, the minimum number of words for posts should be approximately 75. There is no maximum limit. However, be aware that lengthy posts may discourage others from being interested in what is said.

D. Friday: Share & Apply

A weekly personal application question will be posted in the course each Friday. An answer is requested by Saturday. A substantial answer should be a minimum of 100 words. At the end of each week, there is also an optional opportunity to design and share a suggested discussion question for others to use personally or in their ministry.

III. Grading

IJS Workshops are a non-graded learning opportunity.

IV. Personal Reflection Question

In the middle of week #3, an optional personal reflection question will be posted with an answer requested by Saturday evening of that week. This question focuses on one or several of the following: What have you studied that interested you the most? What new things have you learned? How has your learning changed any preconceptions or misconceptions you had before the class? What have you learned that will change the way you live in today's world?

V. Office Hours

The Institute of Jewish Studies Headquarters office hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please contact the IJS Online Coordinator by phone or email at ijs@foi.org. The Workshop Facilitator will normally interact with the Workshop at least once a day, Wednesday through Friday.

VI. Technology Requirements

Each student is required to have access to hardware and software that will enable you to fully participate in the online Workshop. The Institute of Jewish Studies staff will gladly answer your questions regarding the functionality of our online classroom, but, understandably, we are unable to provide technical support or computer literacy assistance in regards to a student's personal computer, setup, or Internet connection.