## EPISODE 7 GOD WAS ENOUGH AT GIDEON'S SPRING

- What did Jack's water fight with the children teach you about the Jezreel Valley?
- What lesson was the Lord teaching in this battle between Gideon and the eastern people who had invaded the Jezreel Valley?
- How does this lesson speak to you today as you face a battle that threatens to overwhelm you?

## EPISODE 8 GOD WILL BE ENOUGH AT ARMAGEDDON

- How has this introduction to Megiddo helped you understand the story of King Josiah's efforts to prevent the Egyptian army's movement through the Promised Land?
- How does this episode shape your understanding of the last days described in the book of Revelation?
- Where do you find hope for eternity as you think about the end of time?

# THE HOLY LAND

John A. Beck PhD

**Season 1 Discussion Questions** 

### Welcome to the journey!

My goal is to change the way you read your Bible. I'd like to open your eyes to the way the land and ancient culture shaped life and shapes our understanding of Bible stories. We'll visit the major geographic regions and explore the key stories in each region. This season begins by using Jerusalem as our base and then moves through the regions of the Judean Hill Country and the Jezreel Valley. I hope the following questions help you reflect on the significance of the land and the book.

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#### **EPISODE 1 WHY IS JERUSALEM IMPORTANT?**

- We can't understand the Bible without Jerusalem; and we can't understand Jerusalem without the Bible. What are some of the reasons this is true?
- What most surprised you about the Lord's choice of Jerusalem as His special city?
- How has this episode changed the way you think and feel about Jerusalem?

#### EPISODE 2 WHY IS THE TEMPLE IMPORTANT?

- How do you feel about the fact that modern Jerusalem is home to three faiths?
- How does the Lord's special presence in the Temple help you think about Him as you manage the challenges of life you face today?

## EPISODE 3 WHY IS JERUSALEM'S DESTRUCTION IMPORTANT?

- We live in a world that is confused about who God is. How does Jerusalem continue to correct those misunderstandings?
- How do you feel about the Lord's decision that permitted the holy city of Jerusalem to be destroyed?
- How does this episode change the way you read the verses of Psalm 137 that speak about harps?
- What hopefulness do you find in the story of Israel's exile from the Promised Land?

#### EPISODE 4 HEBRON & THE PROMISE OF LAND

- How did the Judean Hill Country shape the people who lived in it and the stories from their lives?
- How has this episode changed your understanding of the life of Abraham and Sarah?
- The Tomb of the Patriarchs at Hebron connected the promises of God to a place that could be touched and visited. Do you have a place like that where you go to recall the faithful promises of the Lord?

## EPISODE 5 BETHLEHEM & THE PROMISE OF A SAVIOR

- The Judean Hill Country hosts the founding stories of the plan of salvation. How are the stories of Hebron and Bethlehem related to that plan?
- How has this visit to Bethlehem changed the way you think and feel about the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem?

#### EPISODE 6 GOD WAS ENOUGH AT MT. TABOR

- What visual impressions of the Jezreel Valley most stand out in your mind after viewing this episode?
- How did the geography of the Jezreel Valley influence the stories of the Bible that happened here and establish it as a land worth fighting for?
- The Lord used a battle story in the time of Deborah and Barak to teach a lesson about who He is. How has the Lord used a battle in your life to teach you who He is?

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