PRINTABLE GROUP RESOURCE

Discussion Guide

CAN CHRISTIANS HATE JEWS AND STILL LOVE GOD?

Eight Weekly Sessions for the Digital Battlefield

PURPOSE

Help families, churches, and youth groups examine claims about Jews, Israel, Jesus, the Church, and online influence with biblical truth, fairness, and Christian love.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is organized into eight weekly sessions. Leaders may shorten, combine, or adapt sessions to fit their group's needs and schedule.

Before each meeting, read the assigned section and core Bible passage. Choose examples relevant to your group. Plan for about 45–60 minutes, allowing time to read, discuss, and complete the exercise.

Each week follows the same pattern: assigned reading, one big question, one core Bible passage, three discussion questions, one exercise, and one takeaway. A verse for memorization is identified in each session.

Read the printed core passage together. All Scripture quotations in this guide are from the New Living Translation (NLT). Each Bible passage is printed in full and enclosed in quotation marks.

THE BOMB SQUAD RULE

> **Hear the claim. Check the source. Examine the evidence. Refuse collective guilt. Then reach a verdict.**

MASTER VERSE FOR THE GUIDE

> **1 Thessalonians 5:21 (NLT)**
>
> "but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good."

Each week starts on a new page so it can be copied separately. This guide and the investigation sheet may be copied for non-commercial group use.

WEEK 01 / GROUP DISCUSSION

Who Is Influencing You

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step One: My Digital Manifesto, especially the discussion of gullibility and online influence.

BIG QUESTION

> **How do you know whether something you saw online is actually true?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Proverbs 18:17 (NLT)**
> "The first to speak in court sounds right— until the cross-examination begins."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do people trust influencers they have never met?
2. Does a large following make someone more knowledgeable—or only more influential?
3. Can a Christian bear false witness by repeating something without checking it?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Spot the bomb. A post says, "Everybody knows the Jews control the media." What evidence would you need before believing or repeating that claim? Identify what the post assumes and what it actually proves.

TAKEAWAY

Don't confuse influence with truth.

MEMORY VERSE

1 Thessalonians 5:21 (NLT)

"But test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good."

WEEK 02 / GROUP DISCUSSION

Can Christians Hate Jews and Still Love God

READ FROM THE BOOK

The Introduction, including My Immigrant Family Story, The Lasting Impression, and The Title Question.

BIG QUESTION

> **Can someone claim to love the Jewish Messiah while cultivating hatred toward the Jewish people?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Romans 11:1–2a (NLT)**
>
> "I ask, then, has God rejected his own people, the nation of Israel? Of course not! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham and a member of the tribe of Benjamin. No, God has not rejected his own people, whom he chose from the very beginning."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Was Jesus Jewish, and why should that matter to Christians?
2. How can Christian antisemitism damage the witness of Christianity?
3. What is the difference between criticizing an Israeli policy and hating Jews?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Finish the sentence. "A Christian should care about antisemitism because _____." Compare the group's answers with Romans 11:1–2a.

TAKEAWAY

You cannot honor the Jewish Messiah by hating Jews.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 11:2a (NLT)

"No, God has not rejected his own people, whom he chose from the very beginning."

WEEK 03 / GROUP DISCUSSION

The Jews Killed Jesus — Which Jews

READ FROM THE BOOK

A Simple Example of a Dangerous Distortion in the Introduction and Jew Bomb #1 in Step Three.

BIG QUESTION

> **Is "the Jews killed Jesus" an accurate historical statement?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Acts 4:27–28 (NLT)**
>
> "In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. But everything they did was determined beforehand according to your will."
>
> **John 10:17–18 (NLT)**
>
> "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does saying "the Jews" hide more than it explains?
2. What changes when we ask, "Which Jews?"
3. Can a particular crowd or group of leaders place guilt on Jews born centuries later?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Specificity check. Identify the particular leaders, Pilate, Roman soldiers, and Jesus' Jewish followers. Replace a collective accusation with the most specific description the evidence supports.

TAKEAWAY

Ask "Which Jews?" Refuse collective guilt.

MEMORY VERSE

John 10:18 (NLT)

"No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded."

WEEK 04 / GROUP DISCUSSION

The Top Jew Bombs

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Three. Choose one or two Jew Bombs most relevant to your group.

BIG QUESTION

> **How can a conspiracy theory feel convincing when its central claim is false?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Proverbs 18:17 (NLT)**
> "The first to speak in court sounds right— until the cross-examination begins."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do conspiracy theories often mix real facts with false conclusions?
2. What is the difference between influence and control?
3. Why is suspicion not the same thing as evidence?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Investigate one claim. Use the investigation sheet at the end of this guide. Write the exact claim, identify its source, examine the evidence, and decide whether the conclusion follows. Explain your verdict.

TAKEAWAY

Suspicion is not evidence.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 18:17 (NLT)

"The first to speak in court sounds right— until the cross-examination begins."

WEEK 05 / GROUP DISCUSSION

The Israel Bombs

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Four. Choose one or two Israel Bombs your group encounters online. Include the Scale Test pages when relevant.

BIG QUESTION

> **How can we judge Israel—or any nation—without excusing wrongdoing or applying a double standard?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Leviticus 19:15 (NLT)**
> "Do not twist justice in legal matters by favoring the poor or being partial to the rich and powerful. Always judge people fairly."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is criticizing Israel automatically antisemitic? Why not?
2. When can criticism become prejudice or collective hostility?
3. Would you apply the same standard to another nation?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Apply the same standard. Examine one claim about Israel. Ask: What evidence supports it? Would I judge another country the same way? Am I blaming all Jews for one government's actions? What important information is missing?

TAKEAWAY

Use the same standard for everyone.

MEMORY VERSE

Leviticus 19:15 (NLT)

"Do not twist justice in legal matters by favoring the poor or being partial to the rich and powerful. Always judge people fairly."

WEEK 06 / GROUP DISCUSSION

Has the Church Replaced Israel

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Five: the comparison of Fulfillment Theology and Replacement Theology.

BIG QUESTION

> **Does God's love for the Church require Him to cancel His covenant commitments to Israel?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Romans 11:17–18 (NLT)**
>
> "But some of these branches from Abraham's tree—some of the people of Israel—have been broken off. And you Gentiles, who were branches from a wild olive tree, have been grafted in. So now you also receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in the rich nourishment from the root of God's special olive tree. But you must not brag about being grafted in to replace the branches that were broken off. You are just a branch, not the root."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for Gentile believers to be grafted in?
2. Is being grafted into a tree the same as replacing the tree?
3. Why does Paul warn Gentile Christians not to boast against the Jewish branches?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Draw the tree. Draw the olive tree of Romans 11. Label the root, natural branches, and grafted branches. Discuss which picture fits Paul's description: replacement or incorporation.

TAKEAWAY

Grafted in is not replaced.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 11:18 (NLT)

"But you must not brag about being grafted in to replace the branches that were broken off. You are just a branch, not the root."

WEEK 07 / GROUP DISCUSSION

The Original Influencers

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Seven: Henry Ford, Charles Lindbergh, Father Charles Coughlin, and Gerald L. K. Smith.

BIG QUESTION

> **Why do people believe bad ideas when they come from someone successful, famous, trusted, or popular?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **1 John 4:1 (NLT)**
> "Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What gave these men credibility?
2. Did their achievements qualify them to speak authoritatively about Jews?
3. Who are the voices you trust most today—and why?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Modernize the influencer. Choose one historical figure. How might he build an audience today through podcasts, online video, or social media? What would make people trust him? What should they check before accepting his claims?

TAKEAWAY

Crowds confirm persuasion, not truth.

MEMORY VERSE

1 John 4:1 (NLT)

"Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world."

WEEK 08 / GROUP DISCUSSION

Become the Bomb Squad

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Eight. Bring one or two online claims for the group to examine.

BIG QUESTION

> **What should a Christian do before liking, reposting, forwarding, or repeating a controversial claim?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **James 1:19 (NLT)**
> "Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can waiting before responding help you act faithfully online?
2. What should you do if you discover that something you shared was false?
3. How can you disagree strongly without dehumanizing another person?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Test before sharing. Use the investigation sheet. Ask: Who said it? What is the original source? What evidence supports it? What might be missing? Would I repeat it face-to-face? Does sharing it bear true witness or false witness? Explain your verdict.

TAKEAWAY

Test it before you transmit it. For the next seven days, share no serious accusation without checking its source and evidence.

MEMORY VERSE

James 1:19 (NLT)

"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry."

REPRODUCIBLE WORKSHEET

Bomb Squad Investigation Sheet

Name _____ **Date** _____

Use this sheet with an online post, video, sermon excerpt, political claim, or conspiracy theory.

1. Claim

What exactly is being claimed?

2. Source

Who said it? Where is the original source?

3. Evidence

What facts, verses, statistics, images, or witnesses support it?

4. Missing Information

What might change your understanding?

5. Logic Test

Does the conclusion follow? Does it stereotype a whole group?

6. Bible Test

Would repeating it honor truth, fairness, and love of neighbor?

7. Verdict

FACT / OPINION / MISLEADING / UNPROVEN / DUD

Why?

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FOR GROUP LEADERS

Leader's Quick Reference

- Do not force students to defend an entire people group or government.
- Do not confuse a sincere question with an accusation.
- Do not allow a lesson against antisemitism to become anti-Muslim or anti-Arab prejudice.
- Do not teach that Israel is above moral criticism. Teach consistent standards.
- Avoid saying "the Jews" when the evidence identifies particular people.
- When uncertain, say, "I don't know yet. Let's check."

THREE LINES WORTH REMEMBERING

> **Specificity is the enemy of stereotype.**
> **Crowds do not confirm truth. They only confirm persuasion.**
> **Test the claim. Check the source. Refuse collective guilt.**

FINAL REFLECTION

1. Which lesson challenged something you previously assumed?
2. What are you now less likely to share without checking?
3. How can you disagree strongly without dehumanizing a person or group?

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Before I repeat a serious accusation, I will identify the original claim, check its source, examine its evidence, look for missing information, apply the same standard fairly, and refuse collective guilt.

Can Christians hate Jews and still love God? Open the Bible. Examine the evidence. Then answer before God.