

## The Faith Calendar Project: Judaism

1. Who was interviewed? What did you learn about this person's background? About this person's faith community?
2. List three things about the following faith traditions that you learned:
  - a. *Shabbat/Sabbath*
  - b. *Rosh Hashanah* (Hebrew: "Head of the Year")/Day of Blowing the *Shofar*
  - c. *Yom Kippur* ("Day of Atonement")
  - d. *Sukkot* ("Feast of Booths")
  - e. *Passover*
  - f. *Shavuot* ("Feast of Weeks")
  - g. *Tisha B'Av* ("Ninth of Av")
3. Why do Jewish holidays begin at sundown?
4. Judaism is not unique in that its holidays are based on a lunar month, but we live our daily lives on solar months; the difference between these years is about 12 days, which means holidays based on a lunar month moves about 12 days earlier each year in a solar calendar. After 16 years, a holiday that was celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup> is now celebrated near May 1<sup>st</sup>! How does Judaism, and how do other religions, handle this issue?
5. As you listen to the podcast on Hindu and Jewish holidays, note the similarities in how holidays that began as agricultural festivals became more complex and had other levels of meaning "layered" on top of this original experience.
6. What did you hear as the key elements of the Jewish tradition? How did the interviewee answer the question, "What is most important about these holidays?"

### Vocabulary to Define

Five Books of Moses

*Shofar*

Fasting

*Lulav* and *Etrog*

*Sukkah*

*Matzah*

*Seder*

Exodus from Egypt

Synagogue

10 Commandments

Mt. Sinai