**Silk Roads Exploring Faith: Family, Tradition and History.**

**Video Transcription**

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Video running time: 2 minutes and 20 seconds.

Hello, my name is Allison Wisdom and for me Judaism is about family, tradition, and history.

It's about family because these are traditions and celebrations that we've passed down from generation to generation. I remember celebrating with my grandparents and my parents and now with my children.

It's about traditions because we have holidays throughout the year which are filled with songs and special foods. Food is very important in the traditions.

And then it's also about history as we see through many of the holidays, whether it be Passover, which is about the exodus from Egypt, or Purim, which is about the Jews struggle in Persia or Hanukkah, which is about the rebellion of the Jews against the Greek Empire in ancient Israel and all of these remind us of our ancient history and about all of the struggles that the Jews have overcome over the ages.

And that's also something that's very important in being Jewish is realizing that you're part of this continuing history, and you're part of this global community, and that Jews have overcome persecution over hundreds and hundreds of years. And throughout all this time they've held on to their values and we held on to our beliefs and our principles and our identity, which is really crucial. In my personal history, for example, my grandmother was from Poland and my grandfather from Russia, and my mother grew up in Israel, and I grew up partly in Israel and partly in America, and so that's also very representative of Jewish experiences having lived in so many different places and having carried this this heritage on with us and so that's how I view Judaism.

Thank you to Alison Wisdom for making this video.