

What is a Tragedy? (Israel)

A *tragedy* is a very, very sad and terrible event. I may first learn about a tragedy when I watch television or see a picture in the newspaper. This is because tragedies almost always happen someplace else.



Tragedies have *survivors*. Survivors are people who are alive after a tragedy. They have lost something very important to them, like their home. Or a survivor may know or love someone who has died in the tragedy. A tragedy is a very sad time, especially for the survivors. A tragedy may also be confusing or scary.



After a tragedy, the police and rescue people arrive. They help the survivors.



I am Jewish. Many Jewish people live in Israel. There was a tragedy in Israel. I might hear people talking about the Israeli Defence Force or IDF. The Israeli Defence Force or IDF is there to protect and help the survivors.



Sometimes, Jewish people do extra mitzvot (good deeds) when there is a tragedy. Some people give tzedakah (charity). Some people say extra Tehillim or prayers. I might do an extra mitzvah too. My parents or teachers can help me. Sharing sad feelings helps survivors and other people too.



After a tragedy, there are many hard questions. People study and work together to find the answers and find new ways to keep people safe. I might hear people talking about the tragedy. This is okay.



I may have questions too. Parents, teachers, or counsellors can help. If there are really hard questions, we can work on the answers together.