



# Reconstructionist Book Club

## Reconstructionist Book Club Guide: The Cost of Free Land

Thank you for your interest in bringing *The Cost of Free Land: Jews, Lakota, and an American Inheritance* to your congregation. This memoir was recommended by The [Tikkun Olam Commission](#) as a great adult education offering on the case for Jewish participation in reparative justice for Native/Indigenous Americans. It is also a beautiful exploration of contemporary American Jewish identity.

There is no wrong way to organize a book club! We encourage you to do whatever works best for your community and use the following resources and suggestions as they are helpful.

### We've curated four helpful resources:

1. [A one-hour recording of our author talk with Rebecca Clarren](#)
2. [The Reconstructionist Movement's 2023 Reparations Resolution](#)
3. [Penguin Random House's Discussion Guide for the Cost of Free Land](#)
4. [Rebecca Clarren's Resources for Further Research, from the Cost of Free Land](#)

### Suggestions:

- The Tikkun Olam Commission found it worked well to discuss the book in two sessions, one session on the prologue-chapter five, and one session on chapter six-epilogue.
- You may also want to schedule an additional first session where you could screen the author talk, study the reparations resolution, or build relationships among readers in advance of tackling a challenging topic together.
- We suggest taking time in your last session to review Rebecca Clarren's "[Resources for Further Research](#)" document and commit to next steps in each individual's relationship to the land we live on.
- You may also want to schedule an additional "share back" session, where people can share what they learned about their families' histories. This worked very well at Havurah Shalom in Portland, OR.