THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Matthew 1:1–17

Key Verse: 1:1

1. Who is Jesus? (1) What does it mean that he is the “Messiah”? (Isa9:6) Why did he have to be the son of David? (2Sa7:12–13) The son of Abraham? (Ge22:18; Gal3:16)
2. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob all had more than one son; why did God’s promises get passed on only to Isaac, Jacob and Judah? (2; Ro9:6–8; Gal3:6–7)
3. Note the women included here (3a,5a,5b,6,16). Review each one’s story (Tamar: Ge38; Rahab: Jo2; Ruth: Ru1; Uriah’s wife: 2Sa11–12; 1Ki1; Mary: Mt1:18; Lk1:26–38) Which of them would be considered impure racially? Morally? What did they have in common? Of all women who could have been mentioned in the Messiah’s genealogy, why these?
4. What happened under Rehoboam’s reign? (7; 1Ki12). How did it affect Israel’s history? Review Manasseh’s story (10a; 2Ch33:1–20). What does it show about God? Why were the people exiled to Babylon? (11; 2Ki24:2–4,10–16) How did the Messiah’s genealogy continue anyway? (12­–15) Why did Matthew emphasize the exile? (11–12,17)
5. Read verse 1 again. What was special about King David’s faith? (1Sa13:14; Ac7:46; 13:22; see also Ps51; Ro4:5–8) Abraham’s faith? (Heb11:8–12,17–19) How does this help us understand why God kept his promises to them to send the Messiah?
6. Review what this genealogy of Jesus shows us about God, and about the kind of people he uses and blesses. What does he want from us, more than anything else? (Gal3:8–9)