

# Home Group Helps

Matthew 1:1-17

*A Record of Grace*

The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram. <sup>4</sup> Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon. <sup>5</sup> Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse. <sup>6</sup> Jesse was the father of David the king. David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah. <sup>7</sup> Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa. <sup>8</sup> Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah. <sup>9</sup> Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah. <sup>11</sup> Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. <sup>12</sup> After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor. <sup>14</sup> Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud. <sup>15</sup> Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob. <sup>16</sup> Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. <sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

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## 1. Launching Question(s):

- Matthew starts out his Gospel by listing the important characters in the line of Christ. How important is character development to any story? Name some movies that you have seen with good or bad character development.

## 2. Observation Question(s):

- Why is it important that Christians read and know the often-neglected Old Testament?

## 3. Interpretation Question(s):

- How does Jesus fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant, "All the nations of the earth will be blessed" (Gen. 12:3)?
- How does Jesus fulfill the prophetic promise made by Jacob to Judah that "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, and to him *shall be* the obedience of the peoples." (Gen. 29:10)?
- How does Jesus fulfill the Davidic Covenant that "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever" (2 Sam. 7:16)?
- Why is it important that He fulfill all three?

## 4. Reflection Question(s):

- Matthew includes four women in the genealogy:
  1. Tamar (Gen. 38)
  2. Rahab (Josh. 2; 6)
  3. Ruth (Ruth)
  4. Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11-12; 1 Kings 1)
- How does the inclusion of these four women affirm that the genealogy of Christ is, indeed, a record of God's grace?

## 5. Application Question(s):

- How might you counter someone's objection that this genealogy is nothing other than a list of names?