

March 1, 2020
Large Group



From Abraham to Jesus

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 1:1-17

MAIN POINT: Jesus' earthly family included Abraham, David, and others.

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Timothy 1:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What makes Jesus different? Jesus is fully God and fully man.

Leader BIBLE STUDY

The prophecies concerning Jesus' birth are numerous, and many of them refer to Jesus' lineage. Old Testament prophecies tell of the promised Messiah being born from the seed of a woman (Gen. 3:15); from the seed of Abraham (Gen. 22:18), Isaac (Gen. 21:12), and Jacob (Num. 24:17); from the tribe of Judah (Micah 5:2); from the line of Jesse (Isa. 11:1); and from the house of David (Jer. 23:5). The prophecies said He would be born of a virgin (Isa. 7:14) and would be the Son of God (1 Chron. 17:13-14; Ps. 2:7). Jesus fulfilled all of these prophecies.

In Bible times, Jews took great care to accurately record family genealogies. The family a person belonged to was directly linked to property rights. Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38 both chronicle the genealogy of Jesus. The account in Matthew presents Jesus as the king of the Jews—the legal heir to the throne of David. The account in Luke was written to Greek Christians and focuses on Jesus' descent from Adam.

Jesus was born as a baby in Bethlehem. He had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Jesus is fully God and fully man.

As fully God, in Him “the entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily” (Col. 2:9). As fully man, Jesus has a human body, human mind, and human emotions. (See Luke 2:7,52; Matt. 26:38.) He is our sinless representative (2 Cor. 5:21), sympathetic high priest (Heb. 4:15), and substitute sacrifice (1 John 4:10).

Use this Bible story with the kids you teach to review Jesus' ancestors and their stories in the Old Testament. Help kids recognize that God had been working out His plan to send Jesus over hundreds of years—through Adam, Noah,

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Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Jesse, David, Solomon, and Josiah.
God sent Jesus to earth to save people from their sins.

***Christ Connection:** Jesus came to earth as a baby in Bethlehem. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Through Jesus, God kept His promises to Abraham and David. Jesus saves people from their sin and adopts them into God's family.*

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Introduce the session (3 minutes)

LEADER • Hello!

Were you all sharing about your families with your small group?

Our Bible story today is about Jesus' family. Who can remember some of the people in Jesus' family? [*Allow responses.*] That's right!

Big picture question (1 minute)

LEADER • Our Bible story is the first story we are going to hear from the New Testament. These stories will teach us a lot about who Jesus is and what He has done. When you hear the story today, listen carefully to see if you can find the answer to our big picture question:

SLIDE - *What makes Jesus different?*

Giant timeline (1 minute)

LEADER • Let's take look at our giant timeline. As you might remember, the Bible is made up of a bunch of different stories. But we are learning that all of these stories fit together to tell us one big story—the story of how God sent Jesus to rescue people from sin.

SLIDE - Our story today is about the family that God gave Jesus when Jesus was born on earth. It's called "From Abraham to Jesus."

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Tell the Bible story (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Matthew 1:1-17.

Show the Bible story **VIDEO** “From Abraham to Jesus.”

LEADER • Hmm ... some of those names sounded really familiar, didn't they? Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? I know we learned about Ruth, Boaz, and their son Obed, too. Today's Bible story reminds us that Jesus came from a royal family! King David and his son King Solomon were Jesus' ancestors. The promises God made to these people were talking about Jesus!

God always keeps His promises. Do you remember all the promises God made in the Old Testament about the coming Rescuer? God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family! Then God promised David that his family would have a king to rule forever—Jesus. Jesus' earthly family included Abraham, David, and others.

Jesus showed that God kept all of these promises! Jesus came to earth as a baby, born in Bethlehem. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Jesus is different from Abraham and all the other people in His earthly family. ***What makes Jesus different? Jesus is fully God and fully man.*** That's our big picture question and answer. Say it with me.

SLIDE - ***What makes Jesus different?***

SLIDE - ***Jesus is fully God and fully man.***

Christ connection

LEADER • The Bible lists the people who were part of Jesus' lineage, His family line. Jesus is God the Son, and He has always existed. Before He came to earth, He was in heaven with God the Father. God sent His Son to earth to be born as a baby because of His love for us. God kept His promises to Abraham and David.

Did you know that you can be part of Jesus' family? The Bible teaches that when we trust in Jesus

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as Lord and Savior, God forgives our sin and adopts us into His family. Being a son or daughter of God is an amazing blessing. When Jesus returns to the earth, He will restore all things and remove all evil forever. Then He will fully establish His kingdom, including everyone who believes in Jesus as part of His family!

Key passage (5 minutes)

Show the key passage **SLIDE**. Read 1 Timothy 1:15 aloud. Then lead boys and girls to read the key passage together.

LEADER • Paul wrote these words to a young friend named Timothy. Jesus is God the Son, and He came into the world as a man to save people from sin! Jesus' earthly family included Abraham, David, and others. God sent His Son into the world through a human family, which means that Jesus is fully God and fully man. God was also keeping His promises to Abraham and David. Jesus saves people from their sins and adopts them into God's family.

Teach hand motions for passage:

Trustworthy - (<http://www.handspeak.com/word/search/index.php?id=4260>)

Jesus Christ - *sign language for Jesus, point to nail marks in hand*

Save sinners - *stretch hand out as if on cross*

I am the worst - *hands form heart over heart and then break the heart*

SING "This Saying."

Pray (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before dismissing to small groups.

LEADER • Father, You are good and loving. You are merciful and kind. You are gracious and faithful. Thank You for giving us Your Word so we can learn about You and Your Son. Thank You that Jesus is fully God and fully man. Thank You for adopting us into Your family. Help us love You and make You famous in the world.

Dismiss to small groups...