

Westwood Baptist Church Grounded. Growing. Going.

Worship Guide for December 13, 2020

Sermon Notes

The Genealogy of Jesus: From David to Christ – Our King

Matthew 1

Instead of a nice story about a manger and Bethlehem and angels and the baby Jesus, the first book of the New Testament begins with several paragraphs of genealogy and ancestry. Seriously? Why would Matthew do this? Here's why: Matthew is telling us that if we are ever going to understand who Jesus is, if we are ever going to really understand what was happening there in Bethlehem, we have to go back—a long way back—into the Old Testament. Matthew 1:1 tells us if we are going to understand who Jesus is, we must go back to David and Abraham: "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham".

Last week we began to see how this 'boring' part of the Bible that we often skip is filled with really good news for us. The genealogy of Jesus shows us that God keeps his promises and fulfills his purposes in ways we could never imagine and with people we should never choose. Because God made a promise that through the Abraham, blessing would come for the whole world (Gen. 12:1–13; 22:15–18). We can know the blessing of belonging to God's family through faith in the One who is the fulfillment of that promise. Matthew wants us to understand that without the Old Testament, nothing in the New Testament, including Jesus, makes any real sense.

Why is David included? Because God made a promise to him that his kingdom would be universal and eternal (2 Sam. 7:16; Ps. 89:3–4, 20–29; Isa. 9:6–7). So Matthew's primary purpose of this genealogy is to prove to Jewish readers that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised son of David, the long-awaited Messiah. God's promise is relevant to us as well. Every human being, in one way or another, is a follower, being led by someone or something. We long to be led well – to know that the one we are following is capable, caring, and concerned not primarily for their own well-being, but for the well-being of those they lead. This is the kind of leader God promised to provide for his people. This is the leader – the King – we find in Jesus Christ, the son of David.

The Pattern: A king according God's own heart (Deuteronomy 17; Ezekiel 34)

The Promise: A King according to God's covenant with David (2 Samuel 7)

The Provision: The King who is the fulfillment of God's promise (Isaiah 9, 11, Matthew 1)

The Application:

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Sunday

In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:

I never knew:

I was challenged:

I was reminded:

I was convicted:

A question I still have:

A truth I could share:

Know

Monday

Spend some time today doing the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.

Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

Know > Be

Tuesday

In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.

(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)

Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

Be

Wednesday

Think about this week's questions for group discussion:

What are some aspects of our unique context within our own culture that might skew or distort our ideas of *king* and *kingdom*? How can this affect our discipleship?

Would you say that the idea of Jesus as King is an idea that you typically associate with Christmas? What from this week's message might suggest it should be more of a focus?

Be > Do

Thursday

In your journal, spend some time considering the following:

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?

How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

Do

**Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.*

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