

¹A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:

²Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

³Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,

Perez the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

⁴Ram the father of Amminadab,

Amminadab the father of Nahshon,

Nahshon the father of Salmon,

⁵Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,

Obed the father of Jesse,

⁶and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

⁷Solomon the father of Rehoboam,

Rehoboam the father of Abijah,

Abijah the father of Asa,

⁸Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,

Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,

Jehoram the father of Uzziah,

⁹Uzziah the father of Jotham,

Jotham the father of Ahaz,

Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,

¹⁰Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,

Manasseh the father of Amon,

Amon the father of Josiah,

¹¹and Josiah the father of Jeconiah^[a] and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

¹²After the exile to Babylon:

Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,

Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,

¹³Zerubbabel the father of Abiud,

Abiud the father of Eliakim,

Eliakim the father of Azor,

¹⁴Azor the father of Zadok,

Zadok the father of Akim,

Akim the father of Eliud,

¹⁵Eliud the father of Eleazar,

Eleazar the father of Matthan,

Matthan the father of Jacob,

¹⁶and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

¹⁷Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ



NOVEMBER 29, 2009

Message: The Story of Promise

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MESSAGE NOTES

HOPE FLOW...LETTING GOD'S LOVE FLOW THROUGH US EVERY DAY!

- ◆ **Start each day with a prayer that God will give you understanding and wisdom and show how it can be useful in your life.**

Day 1 PROMISE

Read the record of the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1:1-17 (see back page).

- Why do you think Matthew found it important to record Jesus' ancestry in his Gospel?
- One of the first names in Jesus ancestry is David. Read what God promised David in Psalm 132:11 "The LORD swore an oath to David, a sure oath that he will not revoke: "One of your own descendants I will place on your throne..."
- One of God's most important promises begins back in the book of Genesis. Read God's redemptive promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:2-3
"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
- Who besides Abraham is being blessed by God's promise?
- Read John 4:25-26 & 24. What is Jesus declaring in verse 26? And who sent him?
²⁵The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." ²⁶Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he." ³⁴"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."
- John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*
 - Jesus' genealogy is full of persons who were far from perfect. Reflect on God's faithfulness to send his Son (as promised), despite their sins before/against God and their frequent unfaithfulness.
 - How can that give us hope in our lives today?
 - Do you think God's promise was meant for you?

Pray that you can fully accept the gift of salvation that God has promised to you through Jesus Christ and fully realize the plan He has for your life.

Day 2 Hope

Because of God's redemptive promise, we get to be a part of the story of hope. Read and contemplate the following verses and how they apply to the plan and purpose God has for your life.

Hebrews 16:19-20 *¹⁹We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek*

Jeremiah 29:11-14 *This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."*

Day 3 Character of God

Read the following verses about the character of God.

Numbers 23:19 *God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?*

Hebrews 13:5 *"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

Isaiah 41:10 *¹⁰ So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Matthew 11:28-30 *²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

2 Corinthians 12:9 *⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*

1 Corinthians 10:13 *No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.*

- What do these verses tell you about the character of God?
- Write down the traits that describe God's character?
- Have you experienced broken promises or disappointed expectations from family, friends, school, work, church or other time in your life?
- How has God proven himself throughout history?
- Do you think you can put your trust in God?

Day 4 Nothing Wasted

Romans 8: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

- Are there areas of your life that you need to surrender to God?
- Is there unforgiveness still in your heart?

Pray that you can surrender everything to God, knowing that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you. Pray that you can accept that forgiveness, knowing that God is a redemptive and good God and that there are no useless parts to your life. God will use all the pieces of your life for His purpose.

Day 5 More to the Promise

Psalms 145:13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promise and loving toward all he has made

Mark 13:10 And the gospel must first be preached to all nations.

Part of God's promise is that all nations will be blessed and Jesus will come again.

- How can you be part of God's redemptive plan to spread the gospel and further the Kingdom