

Community Group Questions

1. In Matthew 1:1 Jesus is referred to as the 'Christ', 'the son of David' and 'the son of Abraham.' What is the significance of these three titles for Jesus? Why would Matthew begin his Gospel in this way?
2. What do the following passages tell us about who is 'anointed' in the O.T (1 Sam. 9:16; 10:1; 12:3, 5; 16:1-3, 13; 2 Sam. 2:4; 1 Kings 2:33-40; 2 Kings 9:1-3)? How are these passages relevant to the genealogy of Jesus beginning in Matthew 1:1?
3. Matthew is trying to show that Jesus is *the Christ or anointed* king of Israel. What do the following passages teach us about Jesus from the rest of the Gospel of Matthew (Mt. 1:16-18; 2:4; 11:2; 16:16, 20; 22:42; 23:10; 24:5, 23; 26:63, 68; 27:17, 22)?
4. It is through Abraham that '*all the nations of the earth shall be blessed*' (Gen. 12:3; 22:18). What does that mean (Gal. 3:16)? How does this covenant God made with Abraham apply to Jesus as the 'son of Abraham' in Matthew 1:1? How do the following passages in Matthew underscore the theme that Jesus came for the Gentiles and not just the Jews (Mt. 2:1; 4:15; 8:5; 15:22; 27:54)?
5. Matthew wants his readers to understand that Jesus is the 'son of David' and that the covenant God made with David applies to Jesus as the Davidic King. Take time to read and discuss the following passages (2 Samuel 7:12-16; Ps. 89:19-37; Is. 9:6-7; Lk. 1:31-33; Rom. 1:1-3).
6. Jesus is referred to as the 'son of David' in Matthew 1:1. What do the following passages teach us about Jesus from the rest of the Gospel of Matthew (Mt. 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30-31; 21:9, 15; 22:42, 45)?
7. How does the genealogy of Matthew 1:2-17 reinforce the historical reliability of Jesus?
8. In what way is the birth of Jesus unique according to Matthew 1:16 in contrast with the other descendants listed in 1:2-15? Pay careful attention to the wording of v.16.

Pray for one another.