



JESUS' FAMILY - MATTHEW 1 -

MATTHEW 1:16 **LUKE 3:23** MATTHEW 1 **ISAIAH 7:14** JOHN 8:19, 41 **ROMANS 3:23**

CHRISTMAS EVE

Services: 7. 9 & 11pm Childcare at 7pm only. No Sunday services on Christmas Day.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do you have a What in the World? question you'd like us to answer? www.ourelement.org/what?



INTRODUCTION

Matthew starts off his Gospel account with the genealogy of Joseph (the adoptive father of Jesus). This would have an interesting effect on his original readers because it would remind them, and us, that men (and women) will often try to hide their sin. The genealogy is a way to remind readers that everyone has failed and that we need a Messiah. We see that God has redeemed broken situations and His grace shines through by looking at some of Jesus' family history.

DISCUSSION

Do you know your family's genealogy? Is there anything interesting in it? How is your family dysfunctional? How is your family functional?

EXPLANATION

Do you ever feel your family is beyond saving? Why or why not? Where have you seen God's grace in your family?

APPLICATION - Read Matthew 1:18-25

What would it have felt like to have been Joseph?

Do you think Joseph realized, in the middle of the betrothal, how God can redeem any situation?

How have you experienced the goodness of God?

Thomas Merton stated, "A saint is not someone who is good, but who experiences the goodness of God."

Mission

How can you invite others into the family that God has invited you into?

12/18/2016