



FAITH

Salvation Is Here

Read together: Matthew 1:1-17, Matthew 1:20-21 (NLT), John 3:16,

Discuss:

- The Genealogy of Jesus shouts to us, “I want to be with you.”
- What is your reaction to some of the sordid characters listed in the genealogy of Jesus?
- Jesus is the one sent to save us from our sins. Think of a time when you kept yourself distant from God. What were the circumstances, and why do you think you made that choice?
- How do you process the statement, “You do not have the authority to designate whether you are worthy of Jesus or not.”
- Jesus is the one who came for the morally outcast. Who is a person that you think may be too far gone? Take a moment to pray for them with your group.
- Jesus is the one who came to bless the World. True “Jews” are not ethnic. Paul made that clear in Romans. True Jews are those who have put their faith in Jesus Christ. The blessings of Abraham are “Yes” and “amen” to those who believe. How does a person become a “true Jew”?

Read Together: Genesis 12:2b-3b (NIV), Galatians 3:16 (NIV), Colossians 1:16 (NIV)

Discuss:

- God promised to make Abraham great and assured him that he would be a blessing to all the people of the earth. How could that be accomplished?
- The promises were spoken to Abraham and his seed. “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.” Do you struggle with that concept? If there is something inside that doesn’t want Jesus to get all the glory, what is that thing? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what causes the resistance, if there is any.
- The genealogy of Matthew connects all of us who believe in Jesus back to God’s original plan. He wants to be with us. In the new covenant, there is no such thing as Jew or Gentile. There are only believers in Jesus. You are counted as equal, and God has chosen you as His special possession. How does your heart receive that news?
- The Old is gone when we are in Christ. The genealogy of Jesus shows us that God chooses those who have a gross past. He wants to be with us...no matter what we have done. Being IN Christ erases all else. God sees Jesus when He looks at us. Let that sink in.

Prayer: Father, please give me the desire to be with you as much as you desire to be with me. Help me to value the identity you have given me in Christ. Help me to walk in more knowledge of what that means. I can often avoid you because the weight of your love is more than I can comprehend. I want to walk more fully in the identity you have given me in Jesus. Help me to see the beauty of your redemption written in the genealogy of Jesus. Your goodness is overwhelming. Thank you! In the name of Jesus, Amen!