

**PRAY** *Have a parent open up this lesson in prayer*

“Dear God, we thank you for Jesus. As we are ready to learn more about you, help us to be good listeners! Amen”

### **OPENING ACTIVITY**

*Start off with a fun activity. Grab some dominoes and set them up in a line to knock them over. Have kids make their own domino line.*

**Say:** Isn't it fun to see each domino fall right into the next? In a way, that's kind of like families. Each set of parents has a kid, leading to the next generation. Jesus had a human family too, just like we do. His family can traced very far back!

*If you know your family lineage, take time to tell your kids how far back your family goes*

**Say:** God has given us all kinds of families. No family is perfect. But every family can be used by God to bless us and to teach us about Him. So let's get ready to read the Bible and learn about Jesus' family.

## READ

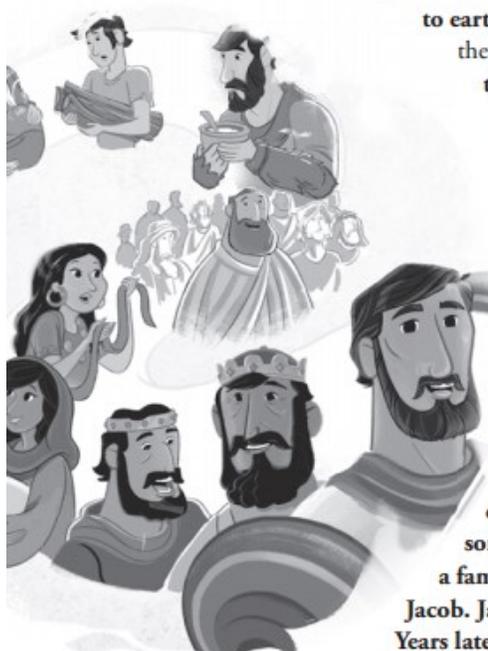
Read the genealogy from Matthew 1 or Luke 3. Then read from Adam to Jesus

### The BIBLE Story

#### From Adam to Jesus

*Matthew 1; Luke 3; John 1*

Before He came to earth as a human being, **God the Son** was with the Father. No one created Him; He **has always existed**. God created the first people, Adam and Eve, but they did not obey Him. **All along, God planned to send His Son to earth to save people from sin. At just the right time, Jesus came to earth as a baby.** He was born to Mary, the wife of Joseph. **Jesus is different than any other baby who was ever born because He is fully God and fully human.**



Like all people on earth, Jesus' family had a history—a family tree. Jesus had parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and great-great-grandparents ... back and back for many generations.

**Jesus was born into the family of Abraham and the family of King David. Abraham had a son named Isaac. When Isaac had a family, one of his sons was named Jacob. Jacob was part of Jesus' family. Years later, a man named Salmon (SAL mahn) was born into Jesus' family tree. He married Rahab (RAY hab), who hid the Israelite spies when they came to Jericho. Rahab had a baby named Boaz (BOH az). Boaz was a farmer, and he married Ruth. Boaz and Ruth had a son named**

Obed (OH bed).

**Obed's son was Jesse. Jesse had many sons; his youngest was David. David was just a boy when he was chosen to be Israel's king.** King David liked to write. He wrote songs—called psalms—and some of them were about the time when Jesus would come to earth.

Other people in Jesus' family were kings too. **David's son Solomon was a king. King Jehoshaphat (jih HAHSH uh fat) was part of Jesus' family, and so was Uzziah (uh ZIGH uh), Ahaz (AY haz), Hezekiah (HEZ ih kigh uh), and Josiah.**

God's people returned home from exile in Babylon. **Then Shealtiel (shih AL tih el) was born. His son was Zerubbabel (zuh RUHB uh buhl). Later, Matthan (MAT than) came along. Matthan's son was named Jacob, and Jacob's son was named Joseph. Joseph is the man who married Jesus' mother, Mary. Joseph raised Jesus as his own son. Jesus was truly God's Son—the Messiah.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus came to earth as a human. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Through Jesus, God kept His promises to Abraham and David. Jesus saves people from their sins and adopts them into God's family.*

**Bible  
Storytelling  
Tips**

- **Show name tags:** Write names from the Bible story on index cards or adhesive labels. Display the names as you tell the story.

## Take to Heart

*As a family, take time to memorize the Key Bible Passage over the next several weeks!  
Take it to heart and notice how God's Word becomes alive in you!*

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning”

— John 1:1-2

**TEACH** *take turns reading as parents, OR have kids read parts of the lesson.*

**Say:** Wow that was a long list of names. Did you know that Matthew gives a different list of names than Luke? Why do you think he did that?

*Have kids think about this BIG question*

**Say:** Matthew and Luke didn't make a mistake. They just wanted to make different points. Matthew's list tells God's people, Jesus is rightful king of Israel. But Luke wanted to tell people that Jesus connects all people through Adam.

**Ask:** Where was Jesus before he was born as a human?



**Say:** Jesus was with God in heaven before He was born! God always had a plan to send Jesus. But a lot of things had to happen on earth first, so that when He came—we would know for sure that Jesus was God's only Son.

**Ask:** Why is it important to understand who was part of Jesus' family?

**Say:** Jesus' family was chosen and guided by God in a special way. God told us to pay attention to this family because eventually this family would lead to the birth of Jesus. Jesus' family line proves that He is the only Messiah.

**Ask:** Was Jesus' family perfect? Why might that be important?

**Say:** Jesus' family was far from perfect. King David made a lot of mistakes and so did many of his children. But that is important for us because God doesn't need us to be perfect for Him to use us. God has a way of working through our mistakes in order to make His plan happen. Just like God used imperfect people to bring His perfect plan of saving us from sin. Jesus died on the cross, so that we too can be a part of God's BIG family!

## **PRACTICE YOUR FAITH**

*An important part of faith is practicing what we read about in the Bible! Take some time to think of ways to live out what we read in Nehemiah.*

**Ask:** *How can we be a part of God's family*

*Remind kids that Jesus' death and resurrection made the way for us to be forgiven. We are adopted into God's family when we pray & ask for forgiveness. Jesus hears our prayers and forgives us! Even though people in God's family are not perfect, we can love one another and help one another with God's power and help.*

**PRAY** *Have someone in the family volunteer to read the closing prayer*

"Dear God, thank you that you love us, even when we are not perfect. Thank you Jesus that you came at the right time to forgive our sins. Help us to love each other. Amen"

# THE GOSPEL

## GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.



**GOD RULES.** Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



**WE SINNED.** Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



**GOD PROVIDED.** Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



**JESUS GIVES.** Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



**WE RESPOND.** Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.

Hint for next week: Guess at what the story is about?

