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PODCASTS
Fair Oaks Church Sermons
Fair Oaks Café

RECAP

This week we begin our Advent series, *God With Us*. In those three words, the very essence of Christmas comes to full bearing: God has not abandoned us to history, nor to our own efforts, nor to our sin. He has come, through the Person of Jesus, and He promises to be with us forever. This week we look at *Hope With Us*.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION: Have you ever looked into your family's ancestry? What curious characters, great achievers, or family scandals are lurking in your family tree?

DISCUSS

KEY PASSAGE: Matthew 1:1-17

MEMORY VERSE: He has made everything beautiful in its time. Ecclesiastes. 3:11a

1. Genealogies, especially in the Bible, can be dry and we tend to skip over them. What stands out about Jesus' family line in Matt. 1? Why is it worth stopping to look into?

2. Matthew includes some scandalous figures in his ancestry of Jesus. While some would want to shield the Messiah from these blotches on the family tree, clearly Matthew has a purpose. How do these stories bolster the mission of the gospel?

3. There were three takeaways in this sermon: God uses actual people, not ideal people, God has his own timetable, and God is not done with your messy family. Which of those resonate most personally with you? Why is that?

4. A great line from one of our Christmas songs says, "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight." Share what your hopes and fears are this holiday season.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Christmas Kickoff is happening on Sunday, December 5th! This is a special weekend because we get to worship together as one, united church family, and celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season with gingerbread house decorating and lunch! Another reason we do events like this is because it's a great opportunity to invite friends, family and neighbors to church! As you can imagine, serving lunch, hosting guests requires lots of helping hands. You can get involved by volunteering to help on 12/5. Visit fairoaks.church/theweekly to sign up!