

THE GUEST LIST

THE FAMILY TREE OF GRACE SERIES: EPISODE 1 OF 5

Matthew 1

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, Matthew 1:1-2

Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother [Bathsheba] had been Uriah's wife... Matthew 1:3-6

WHY HIGHLIGHT THE FAILURES? BECAUSE MATTHEW KNEW THAT IS WAS THE UNFAITHFUL & SINNERS THAT JESUS HAD BEEN BORN.

MATTHEW INCLUDED THESE PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY WERE HIS PEOPLE.

... Take heart son; your sins are forgiven Matthew 9:2

...the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. Matthew 9:6 ...Get up, take your mat and go home. Matthew 9:6

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. Matthew 9:9

... 'Follow me,' he told him, Matthew 9:9

... and Matthew got up and followed him. Matthew 9:9

Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinner? Matthew 9:11

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice. 'For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:12-13

WHEN PEOPLE LEAN AWAY FROM GOD, GOD LEANS TOWARDS THEM.

MAIN IDEA: THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS IS THE STORY OF GOD DRAWING NEAR TO THOSE WHO HAD BEEN DRAWN AWAY.