

SERMON RECAP



Matt 1-2

We're diving into the Gospel of Matthew, exploring how it introduces Jesus as the promised King and Savior. The genealogy of Jesus, far from being a dry list of names, reveals God's redemptive plan working through flawed individuals and unexpected circumstances. We see how God includes women with scandalous pasts in Jesus' lineage, challenging cultural norms and showcasing His grace. The name 'Jesus' itself means 'Yahweh saves,' pointing to His mission to save people from their sins. This narrative invites us to consider our own place in God's grand story and how He can use our messy lives for His glory.

APPLICATION POINTS

- This week, intentionally look for ways God might be working in unexpected places or through unexpected people in your life.
- Reflect on areas where you might be putting other things (politics, career, relationships) before your allegiance to Jesus. Write down one step you can take to reaffirm Jesus as your primary loyalty.



WATCH THE LATEST SERMON



September 8, 2024

MORE RESOURCES

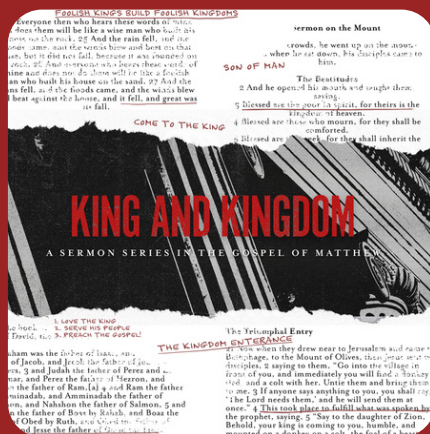


DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon? Why?
2. The sermon mentioned that we often make ourselves the main characters in our own stories. How can we shift our perspective to see Jesus as the main character?
3. How does the inclusion of women and people with questionable pasts in Jesus' genealogy challenge our assumptions about who God can use?
4. The pastor said, "The story God is writing is bigger than the page you're living on." How does this perspective change how we view current events and personal struggles?
5. Discuss C.S. Lewis' argument that Jesus must be either a liar, a lunatic, or Lord. How would you respond to someone who sees Jesus merely as a good moral teacher?
6. How does the concept of Jesus as "God with us" impact your daily life and faith?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Jesus is presented as the promised Davidic king and the fulfillment of God's covenant with Abraham.
- The genealogy of Jesus includes unexpected individuals, showing God's grace and inclusion.
- Jesus came to save people from their sins, not just from political oppression.
- Jesus is "God with us" (Emmanuel), entering into the mess of human history.



CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for being our King who entered into our messy world to save us from our sins. Help us to see you as the main character in the grand story of redemption and to align our lives with your kingdom purposes. Give us the courage to pledge our full allegiance to you above all else. Amen.