

Text: Matt. 1:1-17 Title: Meet Jesus: The Redeemer

INTRO: Genealogies. Ancestry/23&me. **\$5B** > \$10B (20230). What about what you don't want
What we can learn from looking at Jesus Family History and our own:

- "God's not afraid of messy stories, broken histories or shameful pasts (or present), instead He enter into our stories to reveal His grace and bring redemption right into them."
- "His Mission is More than our Mistakes. His Purposes more Powerful than our Pain."

THESIS: "God Redeems our Shameful Past and Turns it for Good in Christ."

I. A Shameful Past (or Present)

- A. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba.
- B. Judah (brother), David, Solomon, Manasseh/Ahaz (child sacrifice), Rehoboam/Abijah/Amon
- C. All thru Bible Jesus is saving sexual sinners. **Hagar/Hosea. Woman @ Well. Woman Caught in Adultery.** Ezekiel 16&23 compares our sin/rebellion/idolatry to prostitution.
Rabbis: Men not to read under it under 30 yrs. women were discouraged to read/hear it.

APPY:

1. **Sexual Shame/Regret** is some of the most powerful/debilitating. **TRIGGER warning.**
2. **Not what define you. Not who you are. Not your identity and worth.**
3. **Jesus determined your worth/value on the Cross** when he offered His life. Blood.

ILLUSTRATION: Matt Chandler. Conference. "**Jesus wants the ROSE!**"

4. **You are pure and righteous thru Christ.** Forgiven. Beautiful. Good. Restores Integrity.

II. Redeeming Your Past (or Present)

- A. God's grace is that He works in unexpected ways to bring about unexpected results.
- B. No human being (sinner) is beyond the reach of His mercy, love and grace.
- C. Jesus associated with notorious sinners.

ILLUSTRATION: Me: "Jesus wasn't afraid to associate with obvious sinners, are you?"

Kaitlin: "Well, I'm married to you, so no." Little did she know. :-) I love my wife b/c of it.

APPY:

1. **Jesus is a Redeemer.** What you've done, what's been done to you. **Painful past:** regrets and painful memories. Unfaithfulness, acting out, running around, past experience, partners, habits, viewing, addictions, escapades, exposures, escapades, curiosities, explorations, mistakes, messages, connections, deception, abuse, exploitation.
2. **Takes what's evil, turns/uses it for good.** Your story becomes your testimony of His grace. Your weakness a way to boast in the power of His strength. Your struggle/sadness/suffering becomes your **gospel ministry.**
3. **You're not alone! Sexual sin/brokenness/betrayal is a common experience.** "No temptation has seized y'all..." Someone else has done what you've done. Someone else has seen what you've seen. Someone else has hurt how you've hurt. Someone else has regretted what you regret. Someone else has hated what you hate. We all have a unique story, but not of us have to be alone with our story. **AND...someone else has known the redemption/healing of Jesus (can help you), and someone else needs help.**
4. **Confess.** Gospel of God's grace doesn't free you from confessing, but frees you to confess. Reason we hide is b/c we don't believe we can be forgiven, or we can be redeemed. Shame keeps us in the dark, but grace teaches us to live in the light. You've don't have to live in shame, you can face what you've done (or what's been done to you) because of what Jesus suffering through and did for you. "If you want to stay in your sin, confess it only to God, if you want to be free from your sin, confess it to a someone."
5. **Jesus' Family includes sinners, outsiders, outcasts and black sheep.** He was not afraid to associate with His sinful family, not ashamed to call us family. (We can love and forgive our family. Even the terrible things.)
6. **Parents:** Virtuous fathers with evil/wicked sons. **RYLE:** More than good examples and good advice. Grace does not run through family blood, but through Jesus' blood. Point your kids to Him. Not yourself or your morals.

Wow. Jesus. What a Savior. What a Redeemer. What a Friend. Have you Met Him?