

CHRISTMAS AT THE HILLS: SURPRISED BY GRACE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY:

The Book of Matthew opens with the genealogy of Jesus. Matthew draws our attention to see some of the key figures in the lineage of Jesus, but the interesting part is the people that Matthew mentions. As we dive into this text, we'll see that the family tree of Jesus is comprised of men and women who lived scandalous lives but are still included because of the scandalous grace of Jesus. Let's lean in.

Key Passages: Matthew 1:1-16

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW: Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone.

The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is something that you are thankful for this week?

What is something that is causing you stress or concern this week?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW: Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

How does knowing that God works through diverse people, regardless of wealth, culture, or position, give you hope and assurance?

While David and Abraham were noted to be prominent figures in Scripture, we also see that they made some big mistakes. What applications can we take from this truth?

Why do you think GOD included and named these women in JESUS' family line?

GO: Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

Who were the significant spiritual people who influenced your faith and journey with Christ? What did they pass on to you?

Why is it important for us to know that God saves us by his grace and not our works? (Eph. 2:8-9)

Read Eph. 2:4-5. According to this passage, what was our position before Jesus, and what is our position now that we are in Christ?



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