2022 Christmas-III

**THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS**

(Matthew 1:1-17)

**Open it:**

1. Why do you think genealogy research is a growing and popular hobby? If you have ever researched your family tree, what can you tell the group about your heritage or any interesting or famous ancestors?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verse 1. What are prominent ancestors of Christ mentioned? Why do you think Matthew said them? (Gen. 12:2; 15:6,7; 2 Sam. 7:12)
2. Read verse 2. Who were the three patriarchs, and how did they reveal their faith in God’s promises and his kingdom? (Heb. 11:9)
3. Read verses 3,5-6, and 16. What significant women were ancestors of Christ? What do we know about them? (Ge. 38; Jos. 2; Ru. 1:14,16; Lk. 1:38)
4. Who is the only person in the record who is listed with his title? (6) How does Solomon figure into the genealogy? How do ancestors and family histories affect who we are?
5. How important is a family heritage to you? How might this passage encourage those who suffer from dubious family history? What can you do to minimize your family’s past mistakes and maximize your family’s potential in the future?
6. The genealogical record is divided into what three periods? (17) What important event and three people are used to mark the generations? How many generations are cited in all?

**Apply it:**

1. What actions do you need to take so that your descendants look back on your life as something to live up to and not to live down to?