



## **Gospel of Matthew: Outline 1**

**Introduction:** The author of Matthew is, Matthew also called Levi. He was one of the 12 disciples. The theme of Matthew is encapsulated in Matthew 28: 19-20

*Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.*

These words provide the basis for our understanding of Matthew's aim: to help disciples by teaching them all that Jesus commanded. We might call his Gospel a 'manual for discipleship.' This is the only gospel that uses the word 'church'.

**What is the purpose of this outline:** The purpose of this outline is to get your people to engage in a real discussion of God's Word so that they can connect with each other and with God, this will help them to grow in their faith and their relationship with God.

**Outline Title:** It's all in the Family

**Read:** Matthew 1: 1-17

Question 1: Do you have any testimonies of God intervening in your life or those closest to you this week (please be very strict that it's a real testimony and not just a long story)?

Answer:

- Personal discussion

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Question 2: Which person are you proudest to be related to?

Answer:

- Personal discussion

Question 3: Why does Matthew start the book with a genealogy and why does he include the genealogy?

Answer:

- According to Jewish thought, the family tree establishes or contextualises who the person is – this family tree places Jesus at the centre of Jewish culture, society and royal lineage

Question 4: What is this a genealogy of?

Answer:

- See Matthew 1:1-2 – Matthew was proving that Jesus was part of the family of both Abraham and David & qualified to sit on the throne of David

Question 5: Why does the genealogy start with Abraham and not with Adam?

Answer:

- Read Genesis 12:1-5 – Abraham was the first person to obey God after the rebellion against God at Babel and God gave Abraham a promise that through him all the nations would be blessed
- Read Genesis 17:5 – God changed Abraham's name as part of the covenant that He made with Abraham, we too are part of that covenant
- This genealogy proves that God had kept His promise to Abraham that all the families and the nations of the earth will be blessed through Jesus and therefore through us
- This proves that God keeps His promise

Question 6: Does this prophecy have anything to do with us?

Answer:

- Read Galatians 3:27-29 – we have put on Christ and so we are the spiritual seed of Abraham
- This means the promise to Abraham is the promise to us
- The promise that Abraham's seed will bless all the nations belongs to us too
- God wants to use us to bless all the nations of the earth

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Question 7: Are there any gentiles (people who were not born Israelites) in Jesus family tree?

Answer:

- See Matthew 1:5 – Ruth is part of the lineage of Jesus - The family tree includes Ruth the wife of Boaz
- Read Ruth 1:3-5 – Ruth was from the nation of Moab (present day Jordan)
- Ruth was one of only 4 women who are mentioned in this genealogy
- See Matthew 1:5 – Rahab was the wife of Salmon and the mother Boaz
- See Joshua 2:1 – Rahab was a prostitute from Jericho
- Rahab and her family were the only ones who were saved from Jericho
- Everyone else in Jericho was killed in the conquest, when the walls fell down

Question 8: Why were these women specifically mentioned in the genealogy?

Answer:

- Matthew was trying to communicate to us that Jesus didn't just come to save the Israelites, He came to save everyone even people from Moab & Jericho (who were enemies of God) who put their trust in God
- God came to save everyone, including prostitutes and people guilty of sexual sin

Question 9: See Matthew 1:6 - Why does the genealogy refer to Solomon's mother as the wife of Uriah?

Answer:

- Read 2 Samuel 11:1-27 – David had Uriah murdered
- God wanted to remember Uriah who was a Hittite (Turkish) even though he had been murdered
- God considered Bathsheba to still be Uriah's wife and not David's wife
- God is willing to redeem everyone & honours Uriah because of his faithfulness and commitment to Israel
- Read Romans 8:28 – God was willing to redeem David's greatest mistake and make something beautiful from it

Question 10: Why did God forgive David and redeem his sins and mistakes?

Answer:

- Read Psalm 51:1-12 – David came to God with a repentant heart and asked God to wash him clean of all his sins
- Not only did God do this, He made something good from the mess that David had made

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Question 11: See Matthew 1:1 – why is it important that Jesus be from the line of David?

Answer:

- Read 2 Samuel 7:11-16 – David promised that a future king would sit on David's throne forever
- God kept his promise by sending Jesus, who will sit on the throne forever

Question 12: What have we learned and how are you going to apply it to your life and how will it help you to bless your community?

Answer:

- Personal discussion

**Communion:** Please do communion or ask one of your connect group members to take communion, pray for people as you do communion.

**Closing Prayer:** Pray for the following:

- For the Lord of the Harvest to send labourers (Matthew 9:36-38)
- Declare that God is giving us a fire house (connect group) on every street in our city and country
- Pray that everyone returns next week with testimonies of what God has done through them

**Jesus Evangelism Strategy:** based on Luke 10 – Jesus' evangelism strategy

- Speak peace over your street, place of work & everywhere else you go
- Spend time with those you want to win for Jesus to build trust with them
- Pray for the things the struggles they tell you about
- Tell your salvation story & how they too can invite Jesus to be their king

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