

## Volume 8 Adult/Kids Connections (SUM 2014)

### Unit 23, Session 1: Genealogy of Christ

*Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38*

#### **Christ Connection:**

**Preschool:** Jesus came to earth and was born as a baby. Jesus' parents on earth were Mary and Joseph. Jesus is God's Son. He came to rescue people from their sins.

**Kids:** Jesus came to earth as a baby in Bethlehem. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Jesus was still God the Son when He came to earth, but He also took on the form of a man. Jesus was born to save people from their sins.

**Adult Connection Point:** Jesus obeyed God perfectly, unlike Adam and the rest of us. The Son of God became a man to live a sinless life on our behalf and die for our sins. And since He was a man, that means Jesus kept every aspect of God's law perfectly, including the Sabbath Commandment (see Deut. 5:12-15). The New Testament teaches us that Christ has freed us from the law because He has fulfilled the law. The laws of Israel, all of them—ceremonies and dress codes and special days of the week—were given as symbols of a greater reality. Well, Jesus was that greater reality; so after He came, we no longer have to observe all the symbols. And so, the early church believed that the resurrection of Jesus fulfilled the Sabbath. Now, we know that Christ is Himself the Sabbath, and if we are resting and rejoicing in His resurrection, we have fulfilled this Commandment. For Christians, the Sabbath means we rest in and remember the gospel. Consider the *Voices from the Church* quote below for further reflection.  
*Voices from the Church:*

“Because Jesus fulfilled the Law, and thus fulfilled the Sabbath commands, He, not some day of the week, is what offers the believers rest. We obey the Sabbath Commandment of the Decalogue as we spiritually rest in Christ, letting Him bear our heavy burdens, trusting Him for salvation, and committing our lives to Him in service, then remaining faithful in lifelong loyalty to Him.”

—Craig L. Blomberg, “The Sabbath as Fulfilled in Christ,” in *Perspectives on the Sabbath: 4 Views*, ed. Christopher John Donato (Nashville: B&H, 2011), 351.

#### **Family Devotion:**

Materials: family photos

Before your devotion locate family photos going as far back in the generations as you can. Organize the pictures by generation, then share stories or occupations of a few individuals on each side of the family. If you have a preschooler, ask the child to name a relative and something interesting about that person.

Review the Bible story. Flip to Luke 3 and Matthew 1 and challenge your children to skim through the recorded genealogies and identify the individuals who were mentioned in the Bible story. Fill in some of the names they may have missed. Remind your family that Jesus had a large family that went back many generations, just as your family goes back many generations. Jesus' family went way back to Adam and Eve. The Bible shows us proof that Jesus was fully man. He was born as a baby and had a mom and dad, grandparents and great-grandparents.

Ask: "Even though we know Mary and Joseph are Jesus' earthly parents, who is Jesus' true Father?"

Read Matthew 1:16. Remind your kids that because Jesus had earthly parents He was fully man. The Scripture tells us that, though, He is also fully God—the Son of God.

Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross and rise again to save those who trust in Him as Lord and Savior.