



Sermon Discussion Questions
12-14-2025

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Series: Family Christmas
Week 2: The Naughty List

1. ICE BREAKER: Today's message started with a reference to the Christmas story *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, which is both a book and a movie. Share with your group your favorite Christmas book or movie!
2. Read our Scripture for this week, Matthew 1:1-11:

¹*This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:*

²*Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,*

³*Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram,*

⁴*Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon,*

⁵*Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,*

⁶*and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon,*

whose mother had been Uriah's wife.

⁷Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa,

⁸Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah,

⁹Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,

¹⁰Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah,

¹¹and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

What stands out to you as you read these verses? Why do you think Matthew begins his Gospel this way, instead of starting with Jesus' birth or ministry?

3. Mac Owen, a leader for Celebrate Recovery, said, "[Matthew 1] is the rated R version of ancestry.com... Jesus didn't just come for sinners, he came from sinners. Jesus came through a broken line to save broken people."

How does knowing that Jesus' family line includes deeply broken people change the way you view grace? What does this tell us about God's willingness to enter into human messiness? Why is the fact that Jesus came *from*, not just *for*, sinners an important distinction?

4. Today's sermon focuses on David. Reread Matthew 1:6.

Discuss what you know about David's life. Now, talk about the way he is memorialized in the genealogy of Jesus. Why do you think this episode of his life was the one emphasized?

5. Read 2 Samuel 11:2-5 and 2 Samuel 12:7-10. These verses encapsulate David's moral failing, and Nathan's confrontation of David.

Discuss two important truths that are found here: 1) God always offers us a way out of temptation, and 2) It is God's kindness that reveals your secret sin. Do you find these truths to be applicable to your own life? Why or why not?

6. David's response to Nathan is found in 2 Samuel 12:13a, "*Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.'*" Pastor Trevor said he believes that this response is why David was still included and honored in the family line of Jesus.

What is exemplified in this response to Nathan? Read Psalm 51 aloud, which was written by David about the moment Nathan came to him. Talk about what you notice in this Psalm.

7. In the message we learned, "We reveal our true character by how we react when confronted with the truth about ourselves." Henry Cloud writes in his book *Necessary Endings* that there are three types of people: wise, foolish, and evil. When confronted with truth, wise people receive it, foolish people resist it, and evil people refuse it.

Discuss these three types of people and examples you have seen. Which of these responses do you most naturally identify with—and why? What helps you move toward being a wise person who receives truth with humility and openness?

8. PRACTICE: Have someone in your group put on prayerful music.

Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind an area of failure, regret, or shame that still makes you feel disqualified.

Read 1 John 1:8-9 slowly. Consider what it looks like to live out confession—not just privately with God, but also with a trusted person.

If anyone feels comfortable, allow space to share briefly. Close your time by thanking God that the "Son of David" is a King of mercy, grace, and restoration.