



Sermon Discussion Guide
Backstory: 23andJesus or Ancestry.Jesus
Sunday, August 8, 2021
Based on Pastor Alex's Message

Introduction

We're beginning a new 5-week series called *Backstory*. In this series we're looking at stories of Jesus in which we could all use a little bit more backstory to better understand what we're reading. In this first lesson, we learn that if we approach the Bible with humility and teachability, we'll experience God's truth.

To watch this week's sermon before your group discussion, go to www.journeyoffaith.com/messages

Share Your Story

1. What's the hardest part about reading the Bible for you?

Hear God's Story

2. Matthew wanted to get his fellow Jewish readers from seeing how Jesus had connections to their own history (Matthew 1:1-16) to catching Jesus' mission of reaching everyone (Matthew 28:19). After reading these two sections in Scripture, what are your initial thoughts?
3. The first name Matthew namedrops (Matthew 1:1) was the great king of Israel, David. Read what a prophet from God told to David about one of his descendants (Jesus) in 2 Samuel 7:13-16. What does this tell us about Jesus?
4. The second name Matthew namedrops here was considered the father of Judaism, Abraham. Read what God told Abraham, which was the beginning of God's plan to reach all the nations in Genesis 22:17-18. What does this tell us about Jesus?
5. How does what you read about David and Abraham impact your understanding of Matthew's introduction of the story of Jesus (Matthew 1:1)?
6. What needs to change in your life so you can better live for the true Jesus we read about in Matthew 1:1-16?

Pray

7. Spend a few minutes in prayer as a group praying for what we've discussed, being sure to give God praise in addition to bringing your requests to Him.

For questions about this curriculum, contact Pastor Matthew Jensen at matthew.jensen@journeyoffaith.com