

Dear Friends in Christ,

Some parts of the Bible are more exciting than others. The epic violent tales of Judges are more enticing than the census data recorded in Numbers. The Flood excites more than the dimensions of Nehemiah's wall. David slaying Goliath is more inspiring than a description of the grain offering in Leviticus.

Not only are the Gospels the most exciting books in the Bible, they are the most important. We stand for the Holy Gospel and not the Old Testament and Epistle because the Gospels record the life and words of Christ, our Savior.

During our Advent mid-week services, we'll be looking at a genealogy. Maybe you put genealogies into the no-so-exciting bin of the Bible. If you do, I say this without intending offense - you're wrong. (Wow, that felt refreshing!)

We'll be looking at the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1. It's the most enticing genealogy in the world. First, we'll discuss what it means for Jesus to be the son of David. Then we'll talk about Jesus as the son of Abraham. And finally, we'll see how the Son of God is also the son of sinners. Jesus' human family tree is full of lots of skeletons, and the stories are juicy. Not only do soap operas lack creativity compared to Jesus' genealogy - they also lack drama.

But Jesus came to redeem His own family. And He came to redeem you and make you a part of His family. The only way to know the Father is through the Son.

It's a new church year. Make it a resolution to get to know your Savior more this year. We'll start by studying His genealogy and seeing how God works through messy human history to save us from our sins.

**“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham” (Matt 1:1).**

In Christ,

Pastor