



THINK
FAITH



THINK FAITH SRE AT HOME

MATTHEW'S GOSPEL: WEEK 1

Jesus is God's promised King





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THINK FAITH SRE AT HOME

Matthew's Gospel Week 1: Jesus is God's promised King

Welcome to Think Faith SRE at Home. In these devotions you'll have the chance to spend 5–10 minutes a day reading a part of the Bible and reflecting on what it means. We hope and pray that these devotions are helpful for you while SRE lessons aren't running in your school.

This term, we're going to look at the Gospel of Matthew—a book that tells the story of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Before we start in Matthew's Gospel, we're going to read some passages from the Old Testament in the Bible so that we can understand why Christians believe Jesus is worth paying attention to.

Day 1's passage contains a series of promises God made to a guy called Abram (whose name was later changed Abraham). Christians believe these promises are ultimately fulfilled in Jesus.

TICK WHEN COMPLETED.

Day 2's passage takes place 500 years after God's promises to Abraham. The promise God makes in this passage is to King David (who is at least Abraham's great-grandson going back 11 generations). David is the ruler of the people of Israel (who are Abraham's descendants).

When this passage begins, David wants to make God a house—a temple—where people can come to worship the LORD God. Instead, God makes a promise to David that his descendants, and in particular one descendant from David's family line, will rule forever. Not only this but the Lord God himself would call this King his son. Christians believe this promise is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus.

TICK WHEN COMPLETED.

Day 3's passage might overwhelm you with weird names. Don't worry if you can't pronounce most of them! The passage ends with a strange word: Messiah. Messiah is the Hebrew word for the King. But, for God's people who knew the promises to Abraham and David as well as other promises God makes in the Old Testament, the word Messiah came to mean God's chosen King who would rule forever and bring peace and forgiveness for people from God.

Christians believe that Jesus is this Messiah: the King that God promised. Throughout the rest of this term we'll look at the reasons for this in much more detail.

TICK WHEN COMPLETED.

Day 4's passage gives more detail about the kind of King that David's descendant was going to be. Christians believe that when you look at Jesus' life, you see how he lived in a way that fulfilled this prediction, even though it was written hundreds of years before he was even born.

TICK WHEN COMPLETED.

Day 5's passage helps us reflect God's character. We'll look at whether God is trustworthy and therefore whether he is worth paying attention to.

TICK WHEN COMPLETED.

GENESIS 12:1–3 (NirV)

The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s family. Go to the land I will show you. ² “I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make

your name great. You will be a blessing to others. ³ I will bless those who bless you. I will put a curse on anyone who puts a curse on you. All nations on earth will be blessed because of you”.

BIG IDEA: GOD MADE PROMISES TO ABRAHAM (ABRAM)

 VIDEO	<p>Introduction video</p>  Or click here <p>Make a note of anything interesting from the videos.</p>	<p>Additional video</p> <p>‘Jesus in all of Genesis 12’</p>  Or click here
 CONNECTING	<p>Think back on when someone has made a promise to you.</p> <p>How did it feel when it was kept?</p> <p>What happens to your relationship when a promise isn’t kept?</p>	
 EXPLORING	<p>Abraham (Abram) was 75 and childless when God made these promises to him.</p> <p>What three promises did God make to Abraham?</p> <p>Highlight the promises in green.</p> <p>If you were Abraham, which promise would you find the most unbelievable? Why?</p>	
 FORMING	<p>Based on what you have learned so far, how do you think Jesus might have fulfilled these promises?</p> <p>What does it reveal to you about God’s promises?</p>	

2 SAMUEL 7:11b–14a (Nirv)

I tell you that I, the Lord, will set up a royal house for you. ¹² Some day your life will come to an end. You will join the members of your family who have already died. Then I will make one of your own sons the next king after you. And I will make his kingdom secure. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house where I will put my Name. I will set up the throne of his kingdom. It will last forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father. And he will be my son.

BIG IDEA: GOD MADE PROMISES TO KING DAVID

 VIDEO	<p>Introduction video</p>  Or click here Make a note of anything interesting from the videos.	<p>Additional video</p> <p>'Ligon Duncan on 2 Samuel 7'</p>  Or click here
 CONNECTING	<p>Think of a few powerful people in history. For how long did they remain powerful?</p> <p>Think of the people in power in the world today? What will one day end their rule?</p>	
 EXPLORING	<p>David was the King of Israel and he wanted to build a temple (house) for God. But instead, God made promises to David.</p> <p>What are the promises?</p> <p>Highlight the promises from the passage.</p>	
 FORMING	<p>Christians believe that Jesus is the offspring of David who rules forever.</p> <p>How does this contribute to your understanding of who Jesus is?</p>	

MATTHEW 1:1–17 (NirV)

This is the written story of the family line of Jesus the Messiah.

He is the son of David. He is also the son of Abraham.

² Abraham was the father of Isaac.

Isaac was the father of Jacob.

Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.

³ Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah. Tamar was their mother.

Perez was the father of Hezron.

Hezron was the father of Ram.

⁴ Ram was the father of Amminadab.

Amminadab was the father of Nahshon.

Nahshon was the father of Salmon.

⁵ Salmon was the father of Boaz. Rahab was Boaz's mother.

Boaz was the father of Obed. Ruth was Obed's mother.

Obed was the father of Jesse.

⁶ And Jesse was the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon. Solomon's mother had been Uriah's wife.

⁷ Solomon was the father of Rehoboam.

Rehoboam was the father of Abijah.

Abijah was the father of Asa.

⁸ Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat.

Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.

Jehoram was the father of Uzziah.

⁹ Uzziah was the father of Jotham.

Jotham was the father of Ahaz.

Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.

¹⁰ Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh.

Manasseh was the father of Amon.

Amon was the father of Josiah.

¹¹ And Josiah was the father of Jeconiah and his brothers.

At that time, the Jewish people were forced to go away to Babylon.

¹² After this, the family line continued.

Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel.

Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.

¹³ Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud.

Abihud was the father of Eliakim.

Eliakim was the father of Azor.

¹⁴ Azor was the father of Zadok.

Zadok was the father of Akim.

Akim was the father of Elihud.

¹⁵ Elihud was the father of Eleazar.

Eleazar was the father of Matthan.

Matthan was the father of Jacob.

¹⁶ Jacob was the father of Joseph. Joseph was the husband of Mary.

And Mary was the mother of Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

¹⁷ So there were 14 generations from Abraham to David. There were 14 from David until the Jewish people were forced to go away to Babylon. And there were 14 from that time to the Messiah.

BIG IDEA: JESUS' FAMILY TREE IS IMPORTANT

 <p>VIDEO</p>	<p>Introduction video</p>  <p>Or click here</p> <p>Make a note of anything interesting from the videos.</p>	<p>Additional video</p> <p>Jesus' genealogy</p>  <p>Or click here</p>
 <p>CONNECTING</p>	<p>How far back can you trace your family tree?</p> <p>Are there any famous people in it?</p>	
 <p>EXPLORING</p>	<p>Jesus' family tree contains many famous names from the Old Testament.</p> <p>Highlight the names from this list that you've heard of before.</p> <p>Thinking back to the last two studies, why is it important that Jesus is from Abraham and David's family line?</p>	
 <p>FORMING</p>	<p>Christians believe that the whole Old Testament of the Bible is a story that prepares us to see that Jesus is the Messiah: the King that God promised who would rule forever and bring peace and forgiveness between people and God.</p> <p>How does this help you understand how important Jesus is for Christians?</p>	

ISAIAH 9:2, 6–7 (Nirv)

The people who are now living in darkness
will see a great light.

They are now living in a very dark land.

But a light will shine on them. [...]

⁶ A child will be born to us.

A son will be given to us.

He will rule over us.

And he will be called

Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God.

He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever

and Prince Who Brings Peace.

There will be no limit to how great his authority is.

The peace he brings will never end.

He will rule on David's throne

and over his kingdom.

He will make the kingdom strong and secure.

His rule will be based on what is fair and right. It will last forever.

The Lord's great love will make sure that happens. He rules over all.

BIG IDEA: JESUS WILL BE A KING UNLIKE ANY OTHER KING

 <p>VIDEO</p>	<p>Introduction video</p>  <p>Or click here</p> <p>Make a note of anything interesting from the video.</p>	<p>Additional video</p> <p>'Jesus' name'</p>  <p>Or click here</p>
 <p>CONNECTING</p>	<p>Do you know what your name means?</p> <p>Is there any relationship between the meaning of your name and your personality?</p>	
 <p>EXPLORING</p>	<p>This passage gives more detail about the King who will rule on David's throne (verse 7).</p> <p>We've learned that Christians believe that King is Jesus.</p> <p>This passage has a number of names of Jesus. What do they tell you about him?</p> <p>Highlight the names of Jesus in the passage.</p> <p>Jesus' rule as King is also described in this passage. What kind of King will he be?</p>	
 <p>FORMING</p>	<p>If someone believed that Jesus is who this passage says he is and rules in the way this passage says he rules, would they be more or less likely to want to learn more about him? Why/Why not?</p>	

NUMBERS 23:19 (NirV)

God isn't a mere human. He can't lie.

He isn't a human being. He doesn't change his mind.

He speaks, and then he acts.

He makes a promise, and then he keeps it.

BIG IDEA: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

 <p>VIDEO</p>	<p>Introduction video</p>  <p>Or click here</p> <p>Make a note of anything interesting from the videos.</p>	<p>Additional video</p> <p>Evidence for Jesus: What's the odds? 48 prophecies from Lee Strobel's <i>Case for Christ</i></p>  <p>Or click here</p>
 <p>CONNECTING</p>	<p>Look back over this week's studies. How does God keep his promises?</p>	
 <p>EXPLORING</p>	<p>Can you think of other times in the Bible that God keeps his promises?</p>	
 <p>FORMING</p>	<p>If someone was convinced that God is trustworthy, how would they show their trust in God?</p>	