

THE JESUS FAMILY TREE

SERIES OVERVIEW

Every person has a unique origin story. Jesus is no exception! This five-part series explores Jesus' family line, beginning with God's promise to Abraham and continues through the faith of a foreigner named Ruth. Later, a young man named David, son of Jesse and great-grandson of Ruth, is anointed king of Israel. Prophets foretell the Savior coming through Jesse's offspring. Once Jesus is born, God's plan for Jesus' family line is confirmed by a devout man at the temple and a prophetess. Through it all, God has a unique plan that He carries out for the salvation of all people.

Watch the The Jesus Family Tree Series Overview Video for a preview of each lesson's Bible story!

EARLY CHILDHOOD & TODDLER SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

	Lesson Title	Scripture	Wonder Truth	Word of Wonder
11/29	Abraham	Genesis 15; 17	God Keeps His Promises	And he will be called Immanuel. —Isaiah 7:14b
12/6	Ruth	Ruth 1–4	God Celebrates Faithfulness	
12/13	Jesse and David	1 Samuel 16; Isaiah 11	God Sees the Big Picture	
12/20	Joseph and Jesus	Matthew 1	God Sent Jesus to Save Us	
12/27	Simeon and Anna	Luke 2	God's Plan Is Perfect	

SERIES INVITATION

Close your eyes and think of Christmas as a kid. Recall how anticipation built up throughout the season, leaving you too excited and giddy to even sleep on Christmas Eve. Remember the joy and delight of Christmas morning when your anticipation was finally rewarded. For many of us, everything we'd been excited for finally came true!

I believe God gave us the Advent season to mirror what the children of Israel felt over so many years waiting for the Messiah. But unlike Christmas, which comes at the same time every year, God's people had no idea when the Savior would show up. They held anticipatory excitement and anxious longing in their hands at the same time. God, we believe You'll show up! ... So, when will You show up?

This is the nature of faith—belief in the face of uncertain circumstances. God worked through people of faith to build the Messiah's family tree. Abraham trusted God's promise for a family. Ruth chose faithfulness over fear. Jesse learned that God had much bigger plans for his son, David, than he could have ever dreamed! Joseph believed God had done the impossible. And Anna and Simeon joyfully proclaimed the completion of God's plan in the person of Jesus.

We have the benefit of Christmas being in our past. But even though the wait for the Messiah is over, we, God's children, still look for His return. This Advent season, let us be anxiously longing and itching with excitement for Jesus' return!

—Callie Bogle
Children's Ministry Associate
Contributor to Wonder Ink