

THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS: GOD WANTS YOU IN HIS FAMILY!

Matthew 1:1-6 (NLT) - This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of David and 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 (whose mother was Tamar). 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 whose mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. ⁶ Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).

Introduction: Some initial observations:

- Jesus came from a line of **DISTINCTION**. *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*
- Jesus came from the line of **DAVID**. *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*
- Jesus came from a line of **DYSFUNCTION**. *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

❖ God wants **HURTING** people in His family! *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

- God sees the **FORGOTTEN**! (Ruth) *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

Psalm 113:5-8 (NLT) - ⁵ Who can be compared with the LORD our God, who is enthroned on high? ⁶ He stoops to look down on heaven and on earth. ⁷ He lifts the poor from the dust and the needy from the garbage dump. ⁸ He sets them among princes, even the princes of his own people!

- God searches for the **FALLEN**. (Tamar) *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

- God seeks the **FAILURES**. (Rahab) *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

Psalm 34:18 (NLT) - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

- God sends the **FORGIVEN**. (Bathsheba) *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

❖ God wants **HONEST** people in His family. *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

Psalm 32:1-5 (NLT) - ¹ Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! ² Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! ³ When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. ⁴ Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. *Interlude* ⁵ Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, “I will confess my rebellion to the LORD.” And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. *Interlude*

❖ God wants **HUMBLE** people in His family. *(Pro Presenter Slide Bulletin Outline)*

Luke 18:9-14 (NLT) - ⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: ¹⁰ “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I’m certainly not like that tax collector! ¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’ ¹³ “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God.

For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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Message Notes
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