

THE MOST DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY EVER

MATTHEW 1:1-17

September 6, 2026

Some Thoughts About Jesus' Earthy Family...

And some Spiritual Lessons we learn because of Jesus' earthly family...

- 1) God's Family has never been a family of _____.
- 2) God's _____ is big enough to include _____ we would never consider.
- 3) God can and does _____ people, despite _____.
- 4) God's _____ is not a reward for _____.
- 5) God takes _____ people and puts them into his _____ plan.
- 6) These "misfits" are _____.
- 7) The entire family points us to _____. And _____ breaks the family curse.
- 8) God is honest about what His family did, but He is also _____ of them when they walk by _____!
- 9) Look at Matthew 1, look at Genesis-Revelation, look at our history and see _____!

Maybe you look at your family and see dysfunction!

Maybe you look at your past and see failure!

Maybe there are things in your life you wish you could erase!

Maybe you've wondered whether God could ever use someone like you!

Truth: If God could and did use them, He can and will use us!

Study Notes for September 6, 2026 – Matthew 1:1-17

This week think about God's chosen family, people who were loved and used by God. Think about the list of names we read in the first part of Matthew 1.

The family history, at first, seems like an odd way to begin the Jesus story.

******But every name tells us something beautiful about the Grace of God. Take time this week to consider...**

- 1) Jesus' family tree includes Kings, Sinners, Failures, Foreigners, Women with difficult stories, and people who make terrible choices.
- 2) God worked in their lives and brought His plan of salvation to the World.
- 3) (Think about this incredible truth, no matter who we are, what we have done, God wants to make us part of his family and then commands us to bring his message of salvation to the world.)

Pick a couple of names out of the list from Matthew 1, go back into the Old Testament and read about the names you have chosen.

- ✓ Focus on the sins and problems all these people dealt with.
- ✓ Think about grace - The fact that nothing they did was deserving of what God gave them.
- ✓ Consider How God used them.
- ✓ Praise God for the truth that God did not and does not, abandon His Promises! And that all those people point us to Jesus!

Here is some great news out of our text this week – GOD HAS ALWAYS WORKED THROUGH IMPERFECT PEOPLE.

The people in Jesus' family did not earn their place because they were good enough. They were included because God chose to work through them. God's grace does not mean we deserve to be in His family. God's grace means He invites us into His family even though we don't deserve it.

If you have accepted what the Bible tells us about Jesus, if you have given your life to Jesus, you are in God's family! Take some time this week to praise God, worship God, and serve God, because GOD IS GOOD, LOVING, GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL.

If you have not accepted the truths from the Bible about Jesus, ask yourself why? Pray, Meditate on Scripture, and decide, what will I do with Jesus?