



Christmas Surprises

ADVENT 2023

SURPRISING FAMILY

Matthew 1:1-6

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham... Matthew 1:1

Four surprising stories in the family tree of Jesus

1. God's grace is greater than my _____

Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was **Tamar**... Matthew 1:3a

2. God's grace is greater than any _____

Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was **Rahab**... Matthew 1:5a

3. God's grace is greater than my _____

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was **Ruth**... Matthew 1:5b

4. God's grace is greater than my _____

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother **had been Uriah's wife**... Matthew 1:6b

Christmas is a story of God _____ to those who had

QUESTIONS for personal reflection or group discussion

1. Are there any colorful characters in your own family tree? Think of one and name what made them unusual.
2. Read Matthew 1:1-17. Matthew names four women in the family tree of Jesus, which was very unusual then. What is one fact you learned about the women named in Jesus' family line?
Tamar (See Genesis 38):
Rahab (See Joshua 2 & 6:17):
Ruth (Ruth 1 & 4:13-17):
Uriah's wife Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11; 12:15-24):
3. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31. How are these verses demonstrated in Matthew's genealogy? What gives you hope when you see the characters in Jesus' family—and read those verses from 1 Corinthians?

LIFE AT TLC

Welcome Lunch

This Sunday after 11am service, next to Loft coffee!

Communion Today

Please bring the elements available in the lobby to your seat.

Benevolence Fund

This fund assists people in need. You can give at tlc.org/give and select benevolence.

Giving Grove

Select an ornament in our lobby to provide gifts for children or elderly persons in need.

Kokua Christmas Concert

Free concert, Sunday at 6pm here at TLC!

We will get wild. We will get sweet. We will get childish. We will have treats!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Saturday Dec 23 4 & 6pm

Sunday Dec 24 11am • 3 & 5pm

Stay Connected

- To get our daily devos, text tlc to 81411 or visit tlc.org/devos
- To receive our weekly newsletter, go to tlc.org/newsletter
- For a list of ways we can offer tangible help: tlc.org/help
- To receive prayer: tlc.org/prayer
- Participate in today's offering: tlc.org/give