CO-CATHEDRAL OF
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Office of Religious Education

November Domestic Church At-Home Project

"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham …" (Matthew 1:1-17)

"Jesus, when he began his ministry was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli …" (Luke 3:23-38)

The **Gospels of Matthew and Luke** give us a list of the ancestors of Jesus. Like all of us, because he was fully human as well as fully God, Jesus had a family. The Gospel authors give us this list of people to remind us of that, as well as to set their telling of the story of Jesus right in the middle of the history of the Jewish people and their hope for a Messiah, a savor who would set all things right with the world. This is who we believe Jesus is.

Matthew's list is a little bit different from the one Luke gives us. When you **read the full account from each Gospel** shown above, can you tell the differences? Why do you think each author would tell the story differently? The answer is important! Maybe you might want to find out for yourself.

The lists of Jesus' family refer to many people from the Old Testament. These people are known as our Biblical matriarchs and patriarchs. As much as they are Jesus' family, they are also our spiritual ancestors.

November is also the Month of All Saints. We often only think of people who came after Jesus as saints, but as Jesus' family history shows us, there were plenty of holy people who came before Jesus who set the stage for his coming! For our **November Domestic Church At-Home Project** choose one or more of the great people from the Bible from the attached information sheets and **"adopt"** them as members of you family for the month. Take time to read their stories in the Bible and learn about why they are so important to our story. You can choose either a matriarch or a patriarch, or maybe one of each!

Write a brief paragraph or two about who you selected, and why you chose that person or persons. Send you paragraph to mrussoniello@strobert.cc or rsteffens@strobert.cc. Celebrate the long history of faith and trust in God of the people who came before us, and who gave so much that we too may believe and trust in God's love and mercy!

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Sarah

Bible Reference:

Genesis 17-21

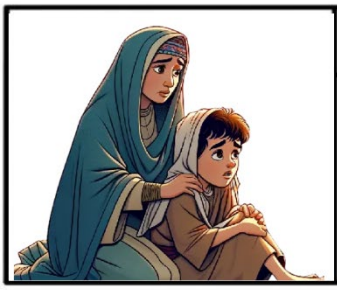
Their Story:

Sarah was Abraham's wife and waited many years to have a child. Though she doubted at times, she gave birth to Isaac when she was very old—just as God had promised.

What I Can Learn:

God always keeps His promises, even if I have to wait. I can trust His timing, not just my own understanding.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Hagar

Bible Reference:

Genesis 16:1-16; Genesis 21:8-21

Their Story:

Hagar was a slave-woman to Abraham & Sarah. She gave birth to Ishmail, Abraham's first son. She was later sent away after Isaac was born.

What I Can Learn:

No matter how difficult things may get in our lives, God always sees us, is never far away from us, and gives us what we need.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Rebekah

Bible Reference:

Genesis 24-27

Their Story:

Rebekah showed kindness when she offered water to a stranger and his camels. She later became Isaac's wife and the mother of Jacob and Esau.

What I Can Learn:

Kindness and faithfulness in small things matter. God can use everyday moments to shape His bigger plan for me.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Miriam

Bible Reference:

Exodus 2; 15:20-21; Numbers 12

Their Story:

Miriam watched over baby Moses in the basket and later led Israel in worship after crossing the Red Sea. She was a prophetess but was corrected by God for speaking against Moses.

What I Can Learn:

God gives gifts like leadership and courage, but I must stay humble and honour others in the process.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Ruth

Bible Reference:

Ruth 1-4

Their Story:

Ruth was a Moabite widow who chose to stay with her mother-in-law Naomi. She worked hard to provide for them and eventually married Boaz, becoming part of Jesus' family line.

What I Can Learn:

Being loyal and doing the right thing matters. God sees my heart and can bless my faithfulness.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Deborah

Bible Reference:

Judges 4-5

Their Story:

Deborah was a prophetess and judge who led Israel during a time of trouble. She gave God's message to the people and helped lead them to victory in battle.

What I Can Learn:

God can use me to lead and make a difference, no matter my gender. Courage and faith go hand in hand.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Hannah

Bible Reference:

1 Samuel 1-2

Their Story:

Hannah prayed earnestly for a child and promised to give him to the Lord. God answered her prayer, and she kept her promise by dedicating Samuel to God's service.

What I Can Learn:

I can pour my heart out to God. He hears my prayers, and I can trust Him with what I care about most.

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



Name:

Esther

Bible Reference:

Esther 1-10

Their Story:

Esther was a Jewish woman who became queen of Persia. She risked her life to save her people by speaking up to the king, even though it was dangerous.

What I Can Learn:

God places me where I am for a reason. I can be brave and speak up, knowing He is with me.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Abraham

Bible Reference:

Genesis 12 - 25

Their Story:

Abraham didn't have an easy life. God asked a lot from him. No matter what God asked, Abraham trusted, so God made promises to Abraham and hid family forever.

What I Can Learn:

Trust in God all the time. Sometimes it isn't easy. God keeps the promises He makes. So even when it seems like God is asking a lot, God is always with us.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Jacob

Bible Reference:

Genesis 27 - 35

Their Story:

Jacob tricked his father, Isaac, into giving him the family fortune instead of to his brother, Esau. Jacob regretted what he did and sought forgiveness. God blessed Jacob because of that.

What I Can Learn:

When we do something we know we shouldn't, we need to take responsibility and ask for forgiveness. Jacob's story points to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Moses

Bible Reference:

Books of Exodus & Numbers

Their Story:

God chose Moses to redeem of the people of Israel from cruel slavery in Egypt. Moses led the people to freedom according to God's will, and established them as a nation.

What I Can Learn:

Sometimes life throws us curve balls. We think we are headed in one direction, but God has other plans for us. We can always trust that God's plan for us is far better than anything we can come up with.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Joshua

Bible Reference:

Book of Joshua

Their Story:

God brought the people of Israel to the land He had promised. Too bad that lots of other people lived there already. God chose Joshua to lead the Israelites and get them settled in their new home.

What I Can Learn:

"Decide today whom you will serve ... As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord."

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Noah

Bible Reference:

Genesis Chapters 5 - 9

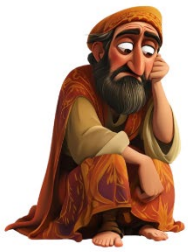
Their Story:

When God had run out of patience with human disobedience, God chose Noah, a man of virtue & faith, to save us from ourselves.

What I Can Learn:

God's mercy knows no limits. God will always give us the chance to see forgiveness and start over again. Trust in God's goodness.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Jeremiah

Bible Reference:

Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Their Story:

Poor Jeremiah! He really didn't want to be a prophet of God. He was frieghtened and thought he was too young. God had other plans for him, though.

What I Can Learn:

It doesn't matter how old we are. God writes His promises and love in our hearts. When we are open to God's call, nothing can stop us from telling others about it.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

David

Bible Reference:

1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles

Their Story:

David was "a man after God's own heart" but he wasn't perfect. God chose him to be King of Israel. David led the people with faith and compassion.Tradition telss us David wrote most f the Psalms.

What I Can Learn:

We all make mistakes, even great leaders. The important thing is to take responsibility and seek forgiveness. As long as we try to do God's will, even if we sometimes fail, God is with us.

Men of the Old Testament



Name:

Isaiah

Bible Reference:

2 Kings, Ch. 18-20, Book of Isaiah

Their Story:

Isaiah was a prophet of God sent to the leaders of Israel to remind them of their obligation to rule by God's law. When they failed to do so, Isaiah warned of God's punishment, but also His mercy.

What I Can Learn:

Isaiah's prophesies of the Messiah pointed to the coming of Jesus. Much of our understanding about who Jesus is and why he came comes from the writings from Isaiah