Jesus Christ, the Son of Abraham

WEEK 1

WARM-UP

- What is the most valuable hand-me-down item (e.g., jewelry, clothes, furniture) you have received? Why is this item important to you?
- How much do you know about your family lineage? Share something interesting about one of your oldest family members.
- What is one thing you are enjoying now that you had to wait a long time for?

WORD The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. MATTHEW 1:1

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." GENESIS 22:1-2

(Read also GENESIS 22:3-18.)

Matthew knew Jesus and His miraculous works. But interestingly, he began his gospel with Jesus' genealogy. Jesus is *the son of Abraham*, who the Israelites highly regard as the first patriarch or father figure of Israel. Abraham was tested by God to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac, but because of Abraham's obedience, Isaac was spared. God honored Abraham by promising him that the nations would be blessed through him. That promise was fulfilled when Jesus became man and the sacrificial Son who was not spared. In this lesson, we will look at the significance of Jesus being the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham and how this applies to us today.

Because Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise, I can trust Him alone.

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." ACTS 4:12

As His Son, Jesus was sent by God to pay the penalty of sin and the only one who fulfilled God's holy standard for a Savior. Jesus, *who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin* (Hebrews 4:15), is the only perfect sacrifice. Therefore, no other person, philosophy, or religious system can save humanity. Jesus alone has the authority and power to save us. Why does God require a perfect sacrifice?

Because Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise, I am secure.

... so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. **HEBREWS 9:28**

In the Old Testament, people made repeated sacrifices to atone for their sins. However, no sacrifice was enough to satisfy God's justice. But when Jesus came, He paid the price for our sin in full. God's plan of redemption, as foretold throughout Scripture, was fulfilled. His life, death, and resurrection made our salvation complete. There is nothing more that needs to be done or added to what Jesus has already accomplished. This grants everyone who puts their trust in Him the assurance that despite what they have done, their relationship with God has been completely restored. How does Jesus' nature and person give you security in life?

Because Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise, my life has hope and purpose.

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For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. **EPHESIANS 2:10**

In Christ, we have the assurance that our life has meaning. God is now actively working in and through us to fulfill His plans and purposes. He is transforming our lives daily as we walk with Him and experience His reality. The truth that God has set us apart and is involving us in what He is doing in the world can give us confidence and a deep sense of purpose. We know that what we do has eternal significance as we live out our faith. How did you know God's purpose for your life and how did it change the way you live?

APPLICATION

- Ask God to show you if you are still putting your trust in other things or people for your salvation. What does today's topic teach you about trusting in Jesus alone?
- How secure are you that Jesus' sacrifice is enough to pay for all your sins? What are the things you would do differently knowing that Jesus' sacrifice is final and complete and is enough to restore your relationship with God?
- God has made us part of His plan to restore humanity to Him. Ask God for open doors to share your faith with your family and friends this week. Be ready to share your hope in Christ.

PRAYER

- Praise God for sending Jesus to the world. Thank Him that we can be secure in the finished work Jesus fulfilled on the cross.
- Ask God to soften your heart whenever He shows you something in you that needs to change. Pray that as you allow God to mold you, you will live out His plans and purposes for your life.
- Thank God for His plan to redeem the world through Jesus and for preparing your part in His plan. Pray for courage and boldness as He uses you to proclaim what Jesus has done on the cross.



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