



December 30, 2018

Matthew 1:1-17

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Lord, you blessed all the generations of the earth with the gift of your son. Teach us to honor him and respect our own place within your family of believers. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. (Matthew 1:1)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

The Hebrew people placed great importance on a person's descent. Jesus' lineage can be traced (through his father Joseph) all the way back to King David, fulfilling an ancient promise.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household or community.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How does knowing or not knowing your heritage shape your life? What can we learn from the people who raised us, and from the people who raised them?

As you reflect back on this year, what dreams do you have for the new year? How will you let your faith shape how you approach your new year?

For the littles: Who are the people that take care of you? God cares for them, too.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing. May God bless your new year! Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Make a vision board. Gather several of your favorite magazines. Cut out pictures and words that speak to you. Paste them on a poster board as inspiration for the kind of life you want to live. Let the images guide and inspire you.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, Genesis 25:1-34, *Abraham's Descendants*

Tuesday, Psalm 132:1-18, *David's Heir*

Wednesday, Isaiah 11:1-9, *The Branch from Jesse*

Thursday, Ruth 4:13-22, *Ruth Enters the Davidic Line*

Friday, Genesis 21:1-7, *Birth of Isaac*

Saturday, Genesis 38:24-30, *Tamar Births Perez and Zerah*

Next Week, Matthew 2:1-23, *Flight to Egypt*