



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

10-12-2024		Advent – Who do you think you are?	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Who do you think you are? <input type="checkbox"/> Play a game of <i>Who Am I?</i> Players ask one another yes/no questions to try to guess the identity of the mystery personality/ historical figure whose name has been written on Post-It notes and stuck to their foreheads.		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> Have you ever researched your ‘family tree’? What did you discover? <input type="checkbox"/> Why can it be so painful for some? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent does our past/ ancestry predetermine our present & future?		
 Read	Matthew 1:1-17	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> Why do we often start teaching Matthew at verse 18, skipping the genealogy? <input type="checkbox"/> Does it matter that Matthew’s genealogy differs slightly to Luke 3 and 1 Chronicles 1-3 ? What was Matthew’s higher purpose? <input type="checkbox"/> What was Matthew signalling by including 5 women in this genealogy? <input type="checkbox"/> Today, when the 4 Old Testament women are highlighted, why is it usually as ‘sinners’? Why are the ‘sinner’ men not given the same treatment? <input type="checkbox"/> v.3 : Who was Tamar? Genesis 38 . How was she forced into this situation just to survive? What had her extended family & community <i>not</i> done? Why is Judah [m] not labelled in the same way as Tamar [f]? <input type="checkbox"/> v.5 : Who was Rahab? Joshua 2 . What circumstances might lead someone to ‘choose’ to become a sex worker? How did she, a ‘Canaanite’, show great courage and faith in protecting these Jewish male ‘strangers’? See Hebrews 11:31 . <input type="checkbox"/> v.5 : Who was Ruth? Is it significant that she, like Rahab was from a different religion? <input type="checkbox"/> v.6 : Who was Bathsheba? 2 Samuel 11 Why have historians & theologians labelled her an ‘adulteress’, but King David not an ‘adulterer’? What part did <i>#MeToo</i> power and exploitation play in this sexual relationship? Why aren’t <i>men</i> in the genealogy called out for <i>their</i> sexual sin? Why are <i>women</i> so often shamed – and still today? <input type="checkbox"/> v.16 : Why might Matthew have included the 4 other women to prepare people for Mary? Why was Mary shamed? See v.18-19 .		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> How does Jesus deal with shame? <input type="checkbox"/> See Hebrews 12:1-3 and John 8:1-11 .		
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why?		

 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Research your 'family tree'. <input type="checkbox"/> Invite someone to a Christmas event/ service at Chester Road Baptist Church.
 Pray	Dear God, I thank you that _____. Show me more of Your _____. Teach me to be more _____.
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk.