

## **Christmas is a Celebration of Missions (Matthew 1:1-16)**

1. Why do you think genealogical research is such a growing and popular hobby?
2. What significant women were ancestors of Christ? (1:5-6, 16)
3. Who is the only person in the record who is listed with his title? (1:6)
4. The genealogical record is divided into what three periods? (1:17)
5. What important event and three people are used as a basis for marking the generations? (1:17)
6. How many generations are cited in all? (1:17)
7. Why do you think the Bible includes long genealogical lists like this?
8. Why do you think Matthew traces Christ's ancestors back only to Abraham and not all the way back to Adam?
9. If God works sovereignly and graciously even when we sin and make poor choices, why should we make the effort to live righteously? (1:6)
10. Why do you think God waited so many generations to send Christ?
11. How might this passage encourage those who suffer from a dubious family history?
12. What can you do to minimize your family's past mistakes and maximize your family's potential in the future?
13. What actions do you need to take (or choices do you need to make) this week so that your descendants look back on your life as something to live up to and not something to live down?