

## Chat with(out) the Children!

- Who is in the same job or line of work as one of their parents?
    - or who learned a significant skill from their parents?
  - We owe something huge to previous generations, even when we end up pursuing a different interest or career from them
    - exploring today how God viewed and used the legacy of Jesus' descendants as part of the story of how Christmas came to be
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## Introduction

- I kent his faither...
  - put down, or...?
- 2 Genealogies, 14 x 3 generations in Matthew
  - Matthew is probably somewhat symbolic - misses some generations to get to neat '14's (double 7s)

## Abraham

- Covenant - "yes Lord" - struggle towards obedience, mistakes in where to place his trust along the way...

## Judah

- Betrayed Joseph, illegitimate child with his dead son's wife...

## Ruth

- Foreigner

## David

- Shepherd, youngest son, man after God's heart, adulterer, repentant...

## Exile

- Caught up in the travails of the people of God - their sin, their judgement, their restoration to the land
- Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel - restoration

## Jesus

- Think more of what he left behind in the glory this evening...
  - but an unlikely candidate for Messiah!
- But that is **exactly** who Matthew is saying he is!
- God's preparation and planning, his ability to weave failure and even rank disobedience into the pattern of his purposes...

## You and me

- An unlikely roll call!
  - yet used by God, included by God, commended by God...
  - who are we to claim that we cannot likewise be used by God, included by God, commended by God... least, last, lowest!
- Where do you fit into God's plan?
  - **willing** to be used?
  - by his grace **able** to be used!

