

Hope for All People - December 6

Parents: As we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season let's see where it all began. God made a promise 2000 years before Jesus was born. Looking at the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew, the bridge between the Old and New Testaments, we see how it is fulfilled!

Read: [Matthew 1:1-17](#).¹ This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: 2 **Abraham** was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 4 Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was **Ruth**, Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of **King David**. David was the father of **Solomon**, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, 7 Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, 8 Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, 9 Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon. 12 After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, 15 Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of **Joseph**, the husband of Mary, and **Mary** was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah. 17 Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

Discuss: What is a genealogy? *It is a family tree which describes where you came from. (Parents, consider drawing a simple example of your family tree).*

Read Matthew 1:1-17. Did you recognize any names in the verses we just read? *(for example Abraham, Ruth, David, Solomon, etc.)*

Who is at the top of this genealogy? *That's right, Abraham. In Genesis 12:3, God said to Abraham, "and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." This shows that Jesus was a part of Abraham's family tree. God kept His promise by sending Jesus.*

Wow! Can you believe that God made this promise 2000 years before Jesus was born? Can we trust that God keeps His promises today. Yes!

Key Point: God Keeps His Promises

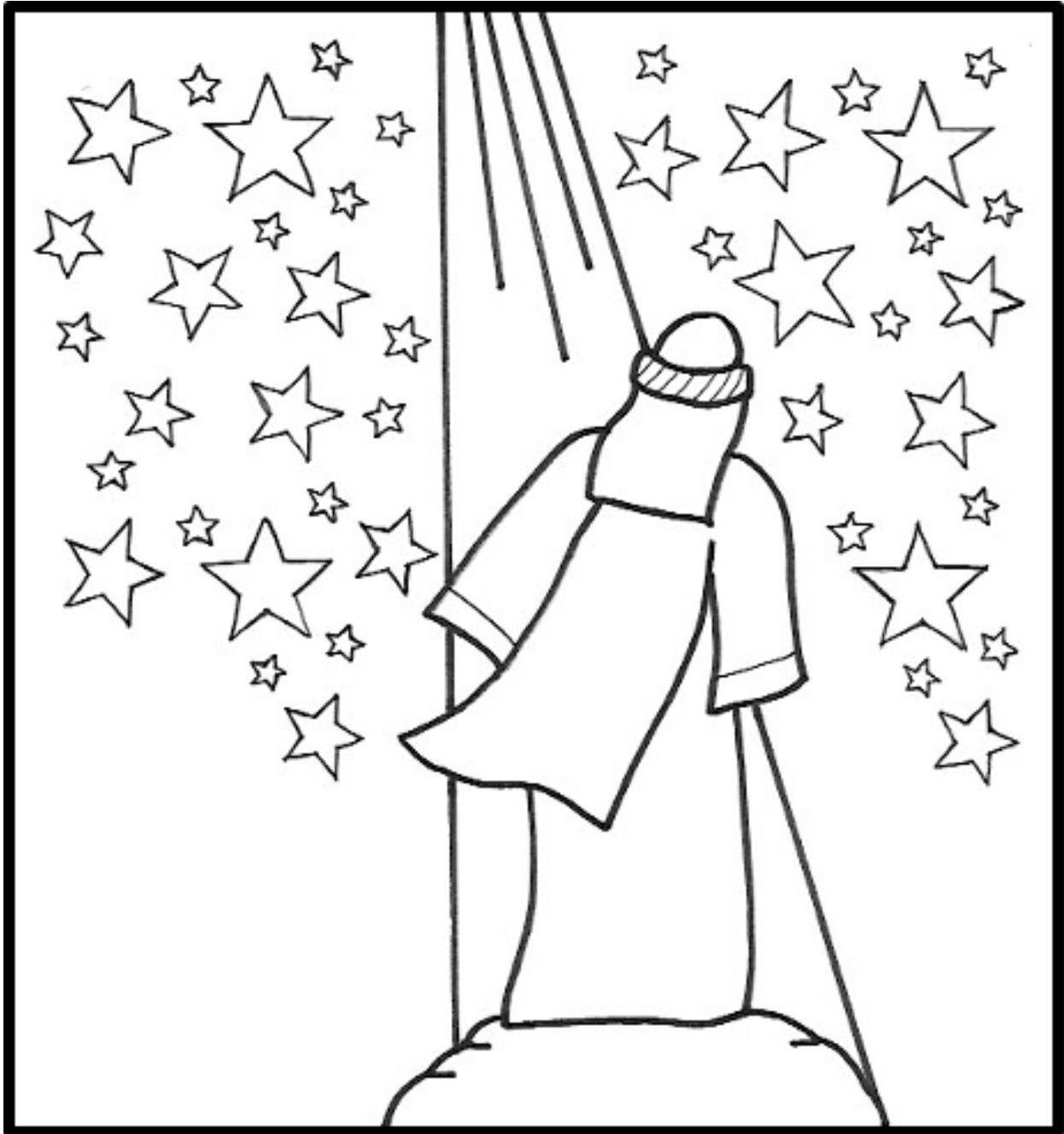
God Keeps (Point up, make scissors with both hands and tap them one on top of the other)

His Promises (Pointer finger to lips, one hand in fist and other hand flat on top)

Family Activity: Let's make an art project that highlights God's promise to Abraham. Cut and color Abraham's outline. Glue the outline to a black sheet of paper. Add stars and the Bible verse from Genesis 12:3.

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for always keeping your promises no matter what. Forgive us when we put our trust in other things before You. Thank you for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us show gratitude to You today. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize Genesis 12:3 - "and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."



God said to Abraham, “and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:3