

# AFTER GOD'S HEART

## (PART 10) A HEART FOR GOD

### Opening Prayer

### Group sharing

1. What has surprised you most in David's story over the last 10 weeks?
2. Share the aspect of David's story that has impacted you most.

In our final week of David's story, we look at a significant connection between David and Jesus. You'll remember the story in Luke 2 when it says that Joseph came to Bethlehem, the City of David, because he was of the house and lineage of David.

The New Testament, in fact, opens with these words. In Matthew 1:1 it says it's "*A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David.*" And the last words of Jesus recorded in the Scripture, in the last chapter of Revelation, say, "*I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David and the bright Morning Star.*" -Revelation 22:16

### Why is Jesus called the "Son of David"?

He's not addressed by the title of "son of Moses," or "son of Elijah" or "son of Isaiah." But over and over and over again, he's called the son of David. So, the question is why is that? Do you think it's because of David's faultless moral track record? In fact, there are Old Testament characters, Joseph for one, whose life was far purer than David's. I don't think it was David's giftedness or his courage or his character. In fact, I don't think it was really about David at all. I think the reason that Jesus is called the son of David has to do with what God was up to in David's life.

**The title "Son of David" stresses two aspects of Jesus' identity and mission.**

### Title of hope.

*"As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him calling out, 'Have mercy on us, Son of David!'" -Matthew 9:27*

*"A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.'" -Matthew 15:22*

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*“When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Jesus stopped and said, ‘Call him.’ So they called to the blind man, ‘Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.’” -Mark 10:47-49*

Jesus, the Son of David, loves it when people cry out and ask him for help. He’s never too busy. He’s never too preoccupied. He just loves it. He loves to give hope.

If you could ask the Son of David for anything like Bartimaeus did, what makes you want to shout? What makes you want to cry out? Maybe it’s for healing, maybe physical healing or maybe healing of the heart, maybe for yourself or maybe for a friend. Maybe it’s for peace — maybe you’re tormented by fear or concern. Maybe if you could ask for anything today, it would be joy.

**3. Can you share what you most want from Jesus, the son of David this season?**

**4. Someone in the group take a moment and pray to Jesus, the son of David for the group’s requests.**

**The humanity of Jesus.**

*“. . . who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be called the Son of God.” -Romans 1:3-4*

Jesus was the Son of God, He was divine, but He was also the Son of David, He was a real human being.

Jewish people loved genealogical tables, and they were used to establish their identity as the people of God because that was such an important theme. Often, they were given for heroes. Here are a few things you need to understand.

These genealogical tables that would give the background for heroes would only contain Jews, only Israelites. Their purpose was partly to establish the purity of the bloodlines. In fact, in ancient times, a priest had to show an unbroken pedigree to Aaron — pure Israelite blood all the way back to Aaron. If there was any foreign blood, he would be disqualified from being a priest.

Another thing about these tables is they only contained men. Women had no legal rights. A genealogy table would no more say whose mother was so-and-so than one of ours would say whose pet was a goldfish. It just would not be considered to be relevant.

Then thirdly, these would just contain respectable or heroic people. A genealogy containing scandalous or shady characters was pretty much unheard of.

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Now, let's look at the genealogy of David in Matthew 1, pointing out only a few names here.

**Verse three:** *"Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar."*

This is not the same Tamar in the story of David. She is a woman and doesn't belong in this table. Secondly, she was not Jewish. She was considered Aramean. She was an outsider of foreign blood. She has a scandalous story. She was widowed, and she disguised herself as a prostitute and seduced and slept with her father-in-law, Judah, so that she could bear children and here she is in the genealogy of Jesus.

**Verse 5:** *"Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab."*

This is another woman. You might remember her from the story of Jericho. She was not Jewish. She was a Canaanite, an outsider. She was a prostitute. And helped the spies that came in, and so she was saved. And she is in the story.

**Also, in verse 5:** *"Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth."*

This is the third woman in this genealogy that doesn't belong there. Ruth also was not Jewish. She was a member of the Moabites, pagan enemies of Israel. She lived with the Israelites because of her mother-in-law.

**Verse 6:** *". . . and Jesse the father of King David."*

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife. The fourth woman who doesn't belong in there. Do you remember her name? Bathsheba. And it talks about Uriah who was known as "Uriah, the Hittite." In other words, he was a foreigner, so almost certainly Bathsheba was also a foreigner, or else if not, worse, she married one.

Matthew is saying that Jesus Christ, the son of David, is taking on himself the representation and the salvation of the whole, fallen, sinful, human race. The story of Jesus will not just be good news for a few religious superstars or one ethnic group. Jesus now is going to throw the kingdom wide open to Gentiles as well as Jews, women as well as men, spiritual giants and spiritual midgets. He's going to take on himself the guilt of prostitutes and pagans and adulterers and sinners like old David and like you and like me.

And Jesus comes along and says, "You can be part of my story. Whoever you are; wherever you've been; whatever you've done, you right there in that seat, you who think I would be shocked and scandalized by your sin, you'd be part of my story. I'd choose you."

*"For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed." -Acts 13:36*

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David himself, for all his sin and brokenness, served God in his generation and then his time passed. Now this is our day. This is our generation, and it just lasts such a brief time, but this is ours right now, this moment. And the Son of David says to you, “You there, you can be part of my story. You can serve my Father in your generation.”

“For \_\_\_\_\_, after he/she served the purpose of God in his/her generation, fell asleep and was gathered to the Father.”  
(Write your name in the blank)

What would you most like to give to God this season? Maybe it's a special time of prayer between just the two of you. Maybe it's in your serving or maybe it's a real significant financial gift towards our budget deficit. Maybe it's special boldness during this season so that you could be a part of reaching another human being for Christ by sharing your story with someone. What do you want to give God?

## **5. Share what you would like to give God this season.**

Jesus, the Son of David, his time is not done. His full reign is yet to come. And someday we're going to get the word. Maybe next week, next year, maybe in a thousand years but the message is going to come from the Son of David, “I'm back.” Then there will be no more fallenness and no more brokenness. So, until that day, you serve God in your generation.

## **Closing Prayer time.**