Foster City Campus – September 17, 2017

Matthew 1: 1-17 - The Unlikely Family Tree of a King
September 17, 2017 – Foster City

The Purpose of the Gospel of Matthew: **To Present Jesus the promised Jewish Messiah, the culmination of God's salvation story, who inaugurates an unlikely kingdom for all.**

1. What has your own family tree taught you about you and your family?

2. What strikes you as compelling about the Book of Matthew or the man, Matthew?

3. How are you encouraged to know that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's Promises to both Abraham (Gen 12: 1-13) and King David (2nd Samuel 7: 12-13)?   How might this change how you think, live and love in your present circumstances?

4. What is the most surprising to you when you look at Jesus' Family Tree? Why would Matthew include all the good, the bad and the ugly?

5. What does this genealogy reveal about God's grace to you?

6. How has God's grace helped you with your own hopes and fears throughout the years?

7. Which of these concepts relate to your own life circumstances right now? God's Grace, Your Own Royal Mess Ups, God's Judgment, Exile, Captivity, God Loves Actual People? How?

8.   How does Jesus the King and Messiah expand his Family Tree? (Grow His Kingdom) What does it mean to receive God's generous invitation of grace?

9. How might we encourage each in our community group with these truths from Matthew 1: 1-17?

South Campus – September 17, 2017

1. Why does Matthew include the genealogy of Jesus in his gospel? What is Matthew's aim for his audience?

2. In verses 2-6, Matthew lists several non-Jewish figures (Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah) who were outsiders to the Jewish tribe. Describe a situation in which you felt like an outsider, out of place, in a foreign setting. What were your emotions and thoughts?

3. Why is it significant that Matthew includes outsiders (Gentiles) in the genealogy of Jesus?

4. In verses 7-11, Matthew lists several kings of Israel's history, including several kings who were considered evil. Why is it significant that Matthew includes sinners in the genealogy of Jesus?

5. Share a story from your family history. How does our family history shape who we are?

6. The story of Jesus highlights God's grace through history. How have you seen God's grace in your personal story?