

Autumn Term

Theme: Family

Year Four

Topic: People

Based on Matthew 1:1-17

Matthew begins with a family tree. He wants his Jewish listeners to know that Jesus is a descendant of Abraham and of David the great king.

Jesus came from a long line of ancestors that we can trace right back to Abraham. From Abraham to King David the list includes: Abraham the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob, the father of Judah and his brothers.

Boaz was the father of Obed, Ruth being his mother, Obed was the father of Jesse, and Jesse was the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon.

Finally, we come to Marthan who was the father of Jacob and Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus who was called Christ.

Based on Genesis 21: 1-7

When their son was born, Sarah and Abraham remembered God's promise. They named the baby 'Isaac' which means 'he laughs', so his name became a reminder of God's blessing and their baby brought them great joy. On the day that Isaac was weaned, Abraham and Sarah gave a great feast to celebrate having a son.

Based on Genesis 12:1-8, 18

God spoke to Abram, 'Leave your country, your relatives and your family home and go to a land I will show you. I will bless you and make you a great and famous nation. All the people on earth will be blessed through you.'

Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, his sheep and goats and all his possessions and set off for Canaan. When Abraham arrived there, he went as far as Shechem the holy place called the Oak of Mamre. It was there that God told Abram that he was going to give all his land to him and his family. Abram built an altar there and worshipped God.

Based on Genesis 25: 20-27

Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebecca. Isaac and Rebecca prayed to God that they would have children. Rebecca worried that she would not be able to have a child.

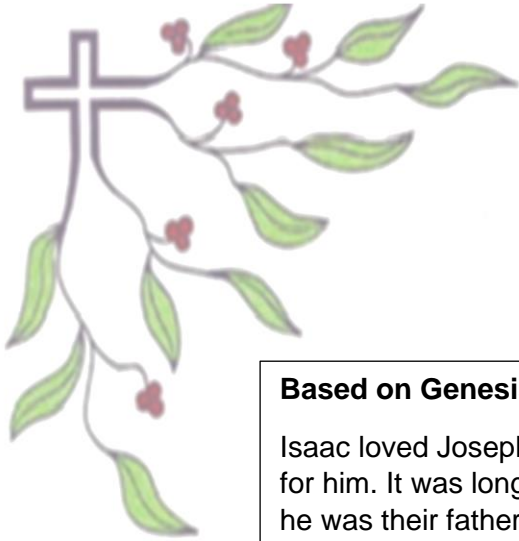
God answered their prayers and Rebecca had twins. The first to be born they called Esau. When a second twin was born they called him Jacob.

When Esau grew up he became a skilled hunter who loved the open countryside. Jacob was a quiet man who preferred to stay at home around the tents. Isaac loved Esau best, because he liked to eat whatever Esau caught. Rebecca loved Jacob most.

Based on Genesis 35:9-15, 23-26

God blessed Jacob. God gave him the name Israel.

Jacob had twelve sons:



Based on Ruth 1:2-7, 16,17.

Ruth said to Naom, 'Let me go with you. Wherever you go, I will go with you. Wherever you live I will live too. Your people shall be my people and your God shall be my God.'

Based on Genesis 37:3,4,12,13,18-28,31-33

Isaac loved Joseph more than all his other sons. He had a beautiful coat made for him. It was long and had full sleeves. Joseph's brothers hated him because he was their father's favourite. They hardly ever spoke a friendly word to him.

One day when his brothers were out in Schechem looking after the sheep, Israel said to Joseph, 'Go and see how your brothers are and how the sheep are doing, then come back and tell me.'

When his brothers saw Joseph coming, they planned to kill him. Reuben tried to save him 'Let's not hurt him. Let's just throw him down this well.'

They ripped off his beautiful long robe with the full sleeves and threw him down the well, which was dry. Then they sat down to eat.

While they were eating some merchants came by on their way to Egypt. Judah said, 'Why don't we sell Joseph to these merchants instead of leaving him here in this world to die?'

So, they pulled Joseph out of the well and sold him for 20 pieces of silver. The merchants took Joseph to Egypt.

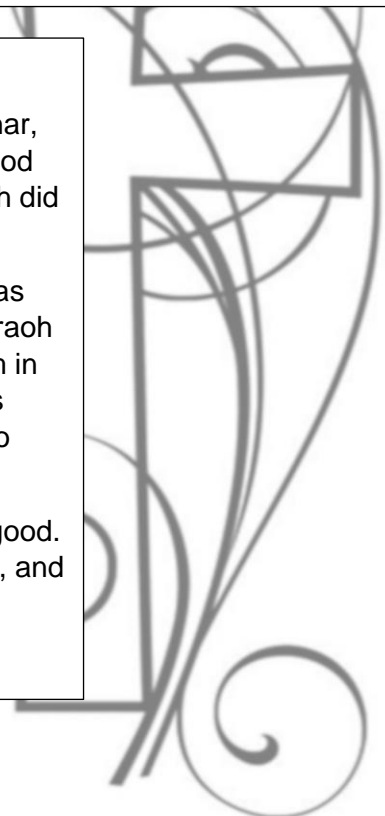
Joseph's brothers took his beautiful robe, dipped it in the blood of a goat, which they had killed and had it taken to their father. When Jacob saw the robe, he knew that it was Joseph's and he wept for his son.

Based on Genesis 39:1-4 and 41:38-48, 57

When the merchants arrived in Egypt, they sold Joseph to Potiphar, the captain of the palace guard. Potiphar soon recognised that God was with Joseph. He was so pleased with everything that Joseph did that he put him in charge of his house.

The Pharaoh got to know how clever and hardworking Joseph was and made him governor of Egypt. Joseph was 30 years old. Pharaoh took a ring from his finger and put it on Joseph's. He dressed him in fine robes made from linen and put a gold chain around Joseph's neck. He said, 'I am Pharaoh and I say - no one in Egypt shall so much as move a hand or foot without your permission.'

Joseph arranged for the storage of food when the harvest were good. When a great famine came there was food in Egypt for everyone, and people began to come from all of the countries around where the famine was terrible.





Based on Genesis 42-47

Jacob heard about the food supplies in Egypt and sent his sons to see what they could get, but he could not let Benjamin, his youngest son leave him.

When the brothers arrived in Egypt Joseph knew them but they did not recognise him. He acted as if he did not know them. He demanded that they go and fetch Benjamin and kept Simeon as a hostage.

When they came back with Benjamin, Joseph set them another test. His servants planted a silver cup in Benjamin's sack of corn. Joseph ordered their sacks be searched, and when the cup was found said they had stolen it. He threatened to keep Benjamin as his slave. His brothers begged him to keep any one of them and let Benjamin go free. Then Joseph said, 'I am your brother, Joseph.'

The brothers were very happy to see Joseph alive and to know that he had forgiven them. Israel and all his family came to Egypt to live and the Pharaoh welcomed them. They settled down with their families and their flocks of sheep.

The children of Israel and the descendants lived in Egypt for centuries, up until the time of Moses.

Based on 1 Kings 2:1-4.

Just before he died King David said to his son Solomon, 'My life is coming to an end. Be strong and always do what God wants you to do. Obey the commandments God gave to Moses. If you do this God will be with you always.'

David died and was buried in the city of David. He had been king for forty years. Solomon then sat on the throne of David and ruled with power and wisdom.





Autumn Term
Theme: Belonging
Year Four
Topic: Called

Based on Samuel 2:11; 3:3-10

When Samuel was old enough he went to Shiloh to stay with Eli and grew up in the service of God. One night when Samuel was asleep he heard someone calling him. He jumped up quickly and ran to Eli, 'Here I am.' he said.

Eli answered, 'I did not call you. Go back to bed.'

Samuel did as Eli said. Then he heard someone calling him again. So he got up, went to Eli and said, 'You called me. Here I am.'

Eli said again, 'I did not call you. Go back to bed.'

Samuel heard someone calling him a third time. He got up, went to Eli and said again, 'You called me. Here I am.'

Eli realised that it was God who was calling Samuel. This time he said, "Go back to bed. If you hear the voice again, say, 'Speak Lord, I am listening.'" . So Samuel went back to bed. When the voice called again. 'Samuel. Samuel.' He answered, 'Speak Lord I am listening.'

Based on 1 Samuel 16:4-13

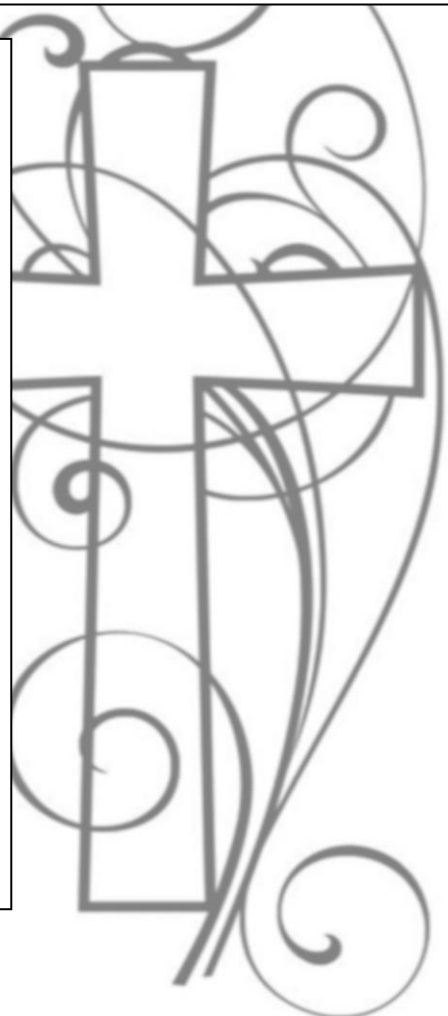
Samuel went to Bethlehem. A man named Jesse who had eight sons lived there. When he saw Eliab, the eldest of the sons. Samuel thought that he must be the one God had chosen. God said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his height. I have not chosen him. I do not see as human beings see. They look at appearance, I look at the heart.'

Jesse then called Abinadab, but God had not chosen him. Next he called Shammah, but God had not chosen him either. Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel.

Samuel said to Jesse, 'God has not chosen any of these. Are they all the sons you have?'

Jesse answered, 'There is one left, the younger youngest. He is looking after the sheep.'

Samuel asked Jesse to send for him. When David arrived Samuel took some oil and anointed him in front of his brothers. God blessed David and was close to him.





Based on Corinthians 12:31, 13:1-8

If you are the cleverest person on earth, but do not love you are nothing.

If you give away everything you possess but do not love, it will do you no good.

Love is always patient and kind.

It is never jealous.

Love is never boastful or conceited.

It is never rude or selfish.

It does not take offence and is not resentful.

Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins, but delights in the truth.

It is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end.

All the wonderful and clever things that people can say and do will come to an end.

Love never ends.

Based on Mark 1:14-20

Jesus went into Galilee. He proclaimed the Good News of God saying, 'The right time has come. The Kingdom of God is very near. Turn away from your sins and believe the Good News of God's love.'

As he was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew. They were fishermen and they were casting a net to catch fish.

Jesus said to them, 'Come follow me. I will make you fishers of people.' At once they left their nets and went after him.

A little further on Jesus saw James and John the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat mending their nets. Jesus called to them, 'Come follow me.' They left their father Zebedee in the boat and went with Jesus.





Based on Isaiah 40:9-11

Your God is coming: strong, powerful, true and dependable.

Your God is coming like a shepherd, feeding the flock, gathering the lambs holding them close.

Yes, God is coming like a shepherd, looking after the mother ewes, leading them to a place where they can rest.

Autumn Term

Theme: Loving

Year Four

Topic: Gift

Based on Matthew 2:1-12, 6-18

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea while Herod was king. Some wise men came from the East to Jerusalem. They asked: 'Where is the baby who will be king of the Jews? We have seen his star rise and have come to worship him.'

When Herod, the king, heard this he was very worried and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and scribes of the people. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In the town of Bethlehem, in Judea.'

This is what the prophets wrote a long time ago.

'And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are important'. For from you shall come a leader who will guard my people Israel.'

Herod called the wise men to a secret meeting. He found out from them the exact date the star had appeared and then sent them on to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and make a careful search for the child. When you have found him let me know so that I too may go and worship him.'

So, they went on their way. Suddenly the star, which they had seen rising went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were delighted. They went into the house, and they saw the child with Mary, his mother. They knelt down and worshipped him. They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So, they returned to their own country by a different way.

Herod was furious when he saw he had been tricked by the wise men. He gave orders to kill all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under.

Based on Ephesians 1:3-6

Give thanks to God the father of Jesus.

Give thanks to the father who has given us the Son.

Give thanks to God who has blessed us with all the blessings of heaven through Jesus.

Before the world was made, God planned his best of gifts from the very beginning God's plan for us was this:

by giving us Jesus to make us sons and daughters, too. We are God's children, blessed and loved like Jesus the Son.

All the wonder of God's love and life is ours through Jesus.

Give thanks to God the Father he was given us the Son.

