

Day 1: Clues in the lists

Read

'This is the list of the ancestors of Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, who was a descendant of Abraham.' Matthew 1.1 (GNB) [Read more...](#)

Reflect

The Bible is believed to be many things and one of those things is a very long story – God's story! And while the long lists of names – genealogies – like those in 1 Chronicles 1-8, Ezra 2 and here, in Matthew 1, might not seem the most exciting bit of the story, they're actually some of the clues that help us see the plot develop. Genealogies were important to show that people were part of the Nation of Israel, a particular tribe, or part of the priesthood. Over the next week, we'll explore how these carefully constructed genealogies in Matthew and Luke's Gospels frame the Christmas event within the whole sweep of the Old Testament story so far. But for today, your challenges are about lists...

Challenge 1

Write a list of the people who've been influential in your life and send one (or all of them!) a note of gratitude

Challenge accepted!

Share ↗

Challenge 2

Add some extra items on your shopping list and donate them to a foodbank

Accept challenge ↗

Challenge 3

Make a list of those neighbours you know (and don't know!) and pray for them

Challenge accepted!

Share ↗