



# Stuff They Didn't Teach Me In Sunday School



## Episode 015: God Does a Whole New Thing

Matthew 1:1-17 (<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%201:1-17&version=NIV>)

The Christmas story is all about God's eternal Son becoming human and entering human history so that He could save us from our sins.

- If it had been up to you, what kind of family line would you have chosen for Jesus?
- What kind of people would you definitely *reject* as His ancestors?

God's ways are amazing. Look at the kinds of people who make up the family tree our Heavenly Father chose as Jesus' earthly family: adulterers, prostitutes, and murderers.

- Why do you think God would accept such sinners to be Jesus' human ancestors when we would have surely rejected them?
- What reassurance does this give us, especially when we are embarrassed about our family history or our own history?

In this genealogy God did something completely new every 14 generations. Of course, the greatest *new thing* God did was to send His only Son.

Throughout His earthly life, Jesus kept God's commandments perfectly and grants us His perfection as though it was our own. And He suffered and died on the cross to satisfy God's wrath at our sins and failings. For Jesus' sake, God forgives our sins and gives us a totally new beginning.

- What are some new things God has done in your life?
- What impact have these new things had on your family, friends, church, and community?

Next week we will look at Joseph, Mary's husband and the legal father of Jesus.