

# FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

After the exile to Babylon:  
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,  
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,  
Zerubbabel the father of Abihud,  
Abihud the father of Eliakim,  
Eliakim the father of Azor,  
Azor the father of Zadok,  
Zadok the father of Akim,  
Akim the father of Elihud,  
Elihud the father of Eleazar,  
Eleazar the father of Matthan,  
Matthan the father of Jacob,  
and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary,  
and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the  
Messiah.

*Matthew 1:12-16*

## ACTIVITY: A Whakapapa to Fit Into

Make a family tree for your whānau and one for Jesus using the genealogies in the Gospels to help you.

Visit someone with a baby and see how much that baby needs looking after by others. Participate (as appropriate) in looking after the baby.

## READ

Matthew 1

## DISCUSS

Both Joseph and Mary were in for a huge surprise. Even though they came from the whakapapa/family tree of David they certainly weren't expecting that God's promised Messiah would come from them. It's pretty amazing that God chooses to come, not as a fully grown person, in charge and with power, but as a baby that belonged to a family.

Jesus had parents, cousins, siblings, aunties, and uncles.

God, in Jesus, chose to belong to a family and to need looking after.

## PRAY

***Thank you, Jesus, that you came as a baby and a family member and you know what it is like to live with people. Help me to love the people I have in my family.***