

# S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



***“That being justified by his grace, we  
should be made heirs  
according to the hope of eternal life.”  
Titus 3: 7***

## God's Heritage

Researching one's ancestry seems to be quite the fad these days. More than a few people who have applied to one of the popular websites for DNA results have made some startling discoveries, often not exactly what one expected.

The Gospel of Matthew also recorded ancestral facts that may have been surprising to some people in that day. Although many took pride in being a descendent of the great King David, they may have failed to take into consideration that David's own great-grandmother was not the traditional Jewish young lady, raised in a kosher Israeli home. No, Ruth grew up in a Moabite nation, worshipping gods other than Jehovah. But then she met and married Mahlon, the son of Elimelech and Naomi, who brought her into the truth of the One True God worshipped by their Jewish ancestors.

When Mahlon died and left Ruth a widow, she had to make a decision. Would she turn back to the false gods worshipped by her people, or would she cling to the truth that she had come to know? On the fateful day in which her mother-in-law, Naomi decided to return to Israel, Ruth insisted on joining her. ***“...whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.” (Ruth 1: 16).*** Ruth's declaration did not come from an unsure heart. Beyond a doubt, her heart was fixed on serving the God of Israel. Little did Ruth know that her decision would place her firmly in the lineage of King David, and eventually, Jesus, the Savior of the world.

Many people today may not be able to trace their lineage past one or two generations. Others may be able to go back farther than that, but may find that they are not very proud of the legacy that has been passed down to them because it is one of sin and abuse. But God doesn't judge us by the world's standards or by the reputations of our ancestors.

No matter our lineage or social standing in this world, God has given us something far greater than anything this world can offer. The Apostle James reminded us that we will live and reign in heaven with Jesus someday. ***“...my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? (James 2: 5).*** We have a great heritage because we are chosen by God!

**Family Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You that no matter what my past holds, I can be confident that You hold my future in Your hands. I'm so thankful that You are preparing a better place for me in heaven someday.  
In Jesus' Name, Amen.**

Includes  
Family  
Activities

Want more?  
Scroll down for  
Bonus Pages



Gather art supplies and create a family tree. Even if you can only go a generation or two, that's fine. If you want, you can place God at the top since we are His heirs once we are born into His kingdom!

### Let's talk

How important is family heritage? What do you think Paul meant when he said, "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do." (1 Timothy 1: 4)?

Look around your church congregation this week. Do you see people who have no family living nearby? How about inviting them to join you for family night? You can be their family since you have the same heavenly Father!



## Additional Challenges

Let's take a closer look at the genealogy listed in Matthew, chapter 1. See if you can match up the people.

- Isaac was the son of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who was the father of Aminadab?
  - \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who was the father and mother of Booz?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who was the father and mother of Obed?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- David was the son of \_\_\_\_\_ and the father of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who was the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus?
  - \_\_\_\_\_.
- Look at the precision of God's timeline. How many generations unfolded between:
  - Abraham to David? \_\_\_\_\_
  - David to the carrying away to Babylon? \_\_\_\_\_
  - The carrying away into Babylon to Jesus birth? \_\_\_\_\_

*No matter your ancestry, you have a great heritage*

*when you are a child of God!*

## Puzzle Page

D I S C O V E R I E S P C N Y  
N E W N H N I G X H U L A J Z  
K B C K G V M P A J E O Y W T  
V E Q L K I E I S E M A F Y X  
Q R D W A C E L N I N H V V N  
M T G W T R W R L T D I V E O  
A I X E J T A E P R J V L J N  
N U D J I S A T L E G A C Y H  
C H I G C R W C I D U O R P F  
E C H Q S R Y P Y O G W D R H  
S H S I D H I H T Y N O J O H  
T T I S A M O U T W A R L K T  
R E W L V P M K K X G H N R U  
Y U E J I N C Q R B M W B D R  
B X J X D X E G A T I R E H U

ANCESTRY  
DISCOVERIES  
HERITAGE  
LEGACY  
PROUD

DAVID  
EXPECTED  
ISRAEL  
LINEAGE  
REIGN

DECLARATION  
HEAVEN  
JEWISH  
NAOMI  
RUTH

