



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIS POINT IN GOD'S STORY?

Today we're right in the middle of our Jesse Tree series!

"The Jesse Tree" is just what we call this way of learning the stories that lead to Jesus.

BIBLE READING

Isaiah 11:1-2

WHAT DO THOSE VERSES TELL US ABOUT GOD?

This verse is often interpreted as talking about Jesus coming. We interpret the "shoot" and the "branch" that is going to grow from the stump of Jesse to mean that Jesus was going to be born from Jesse's family tree. As we said yesterday, Isaiah was written 600-700 years before Jesus was born. But in Matthew 1:5 we can see that prediction in this verse was fulfilled, because Jesse is part of Jesus' family tree!

Jesse himself was a descendant of the family that came from Abraham. So this prediction in Isaiah and the verse in Matthew help us to see that this was all part of the promise that God made to Abraham to bless the earth through his family! And, of course, even before that, God talked about His plan to bring Jesus when He talked to the snake in the Garden of Eden. GOD HAD A PLAN TO BRING JESUS ALL ALONG!

So, even though we sometimes get focused on the individual Bible Stories and the things that happen in them, we should also remember that God has a Big Plan! And God's Big Plan has always been to send His Son to Earth so we can be forgiven of our sins . . . so one day we can live FOREVER with Him!

PRAYER

Dear God, Thank you for caring enough about us to create a BIG plan to forgive us of our sins and bring us home to heaven to live with you forever. Thank you for sending your Son. In Jesus' name, amen.



