

# Feeling terrible at Christmas

*What is our **original faith**?*

Origin Series 2, Matthew 1:2-6

December 6, 2009, Jeff Edwards, Northwest Community Church

**Christmas originated with a faithful woman in Bethlehem...**

**Ruth (& others)!**

*Mt 1:1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup> Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, <sup>4</sup> Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup> Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife... <sup>16</sup> and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. cf Ruth 4:18-22, Lk3:23-38*

**These origins tell us something about *original faith*...**

***Original faith* is for everybody, not against everything.**

Stories: Genesis 38, Joshua 2, Ruth 1-4, 2 Samuel 11, Matthew 1:18-24

*Heb 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ...  
<sup>31</sup> By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.*

**Christmas is for sinners.**

*Mt 9:12 ...Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick." <sup>13</sup> But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*

**Christmas is for everybody.**

*Gal 3:8 The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." ... <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

*"Church should be a haven for people who feel terrible about themselves – theologically, that is our ticket for entry. God needs humble people (which usually means humbled people) to accomplish his work." – Philip Yancey*

**Feeling terrible? Time for a little act of faith!**

*"Go, be Christ in your community and bring your community to Christ. Amen."*