

## MAT



#INHERITANCE



So, Jean Constance Badger, so that was my grandmother. So, when I was a kid, I lived with my grandma for... well, when I say lived with her, I was dropped off by my parents very early in the morning and picked up every evening. She was a very proactive grandma, she loved me very much and she also taught me a lot about Jesus. When I was four years old, I had a near-death experience which my grandmother helped me through. She passed away in 1980, when I was 7 years old, and I remember standing at her graveside as a 7-year-old feeling like my world had fallen to bits. She had a profound, huge influence on my mum who pretty much picked up where my grandma left off. My mother would say her faith became what it became because of the influence of my dad's mum. So yeah, in terms of influence, those are the two main influences in the early years of my faith. Mum was also my Sunday school teacher. She was my kids church leader because she was passionate about her faith.

My mum, along with another couple of ladies, Mrs Frost and Mrs Martin, in our village started a kids club where there were 126 students at the school, and when school finished around 100 of those children went to the kid's club (at its peak). I still remember this small country church that they had permission to use... when we had too many kids, they organized for farmers to bring their four-wheel-drives and vehicles and we would have our small group time in these vehicles. I remember Mrs Frost teaching our group about the missionary journeys of Paul in the back of her station wagon as it was pouring with rain outside. And these women put me on the track to what I am doing now. As I got older and went to university, I carried on doing what I had always seen being done.

What I appreciate about my mum was that both she and dad always had a holistic vision of the kingdom - the message of the kingdom was wider than a brand. While we came from a brethren background, it was the message of the Gospel that was the most important thing. My dad had a couple of sisters and an auntie who were staunch Brethren women... in fact, many of the Badger family were brethren. At this time in history, I affectionately remember them as being a kind of 'council of the elders' because of their love and concern for my spiritual wellbeing. I am also blessed to have three other amazing women in my life who have impacted my spiritual walk massively. The first is my lovely wife, Jules. The love and support I have received from her over the years has been amazing. In terms of my spiritual walk, she has been my greatest fan and has always backed any kingdom initiative I have had... no matter how crazy it may have seemed at the time.

The second woman who has impacted my life has been my daughter Gabbie. I have been both encouraged and challenged as Gabbie has sought out the kingdom in her life. She is an amazing young lady and mum. And thirdly, I also need to mention here my amazing mother-in-law, Kathie. She has always encouraged me with the right word at the right time. The way that both her and my mum have prayed for Jules and I over the years has impacted me immensely. All these women have not only helped nurture my faith but are in fact amazing leaders, each one in their own right. I am proud of them all! And now I have the privilege of being a granddad to a beautiful baby girl who touches my heart... roll on the next generation!

## CLAIRE



My mum is a Christian who, through my whole life, she has taken me to church. She has encouraged me to stay and grow in my faith, even when as a teenager I was rejecting church. She always tried to get me to come back - I thought 'Oh nah, that's a bit cringey, it's not very cool'.

But she kept encouraging me. Even now, she has been texting me a lot in the lead-up to this conference being like 'You've got this'. Another faith and life influence is Raewyn, my mother-in-law. She was preaching the night I gave my life to Jesus. Jesus spoke so much to me that night through her, and I go to her for advice, now years later.

Also, my supervisor - which is weird because it's a professional relationship and she bills me for hanging out (laughs), yet it's seven years of seeing her every month and I always leave feeling good and like, 'I can do it!'.

Friends: Linda, Lauren, Rosy - you are real, you often pray for me. I guess it's a different kind of relationship where we are leaning on each other. I guess I'm quite lucky.



#INHERITANCE

## BEAVEN



#INHERITANCE



So my aunt Jocelyn is currently the Corps Officer at Sydenham Salvation Army and she was potentially one of the aunts that I was closest to growing up. A lot of our family lived in different cities, so did Jocelyn, but for the most part she lived in Christchurch. Her journey, everything she has gone through has been very inspiring - but also her mentorship of me, both within our church and within our family.

She is always generous with what she does and what she can give. For me, personally, I was in a tough spot for a house and she opened her house to me, and gave me a warm place... too warm at times but that's not her fault (laughs). A place to live, especially when things were really tough, especially in uni and money-wise and everything that goes with being a young person. Within that, her constant burning passion to bring others and herself closer to Jesus just overarching everything. She is a patient individual and sees past where you've been and sees where you're going. Before I had come into her house, she had had maybe 10 people live with her, Corps or community people, people who needed it who came through and stayed in the spare room or sleepout depending on the house.

Even opening it to people who just need it for a night, no matter how many people were there, there was always room for one more. When she became Corps Officer at Sydenham... that change, that continued to grow and develop in our lives and take our community in a strong direction, which impacted me as well. Her generosity as well, what she can offer, financial or physical help.

When I got in a car crash she was the one who came to the hospital when I was there with a concussion. My sister was with me in the situation but was just unable to comprehend it. Joc showed up and looked after me for two and a half days. If you give her a call, she might sigh if it's stupid, but she will be there. She's, since dad and mum moved, she's been a mother to me. Checking-in, making sure anything is alright, inviting for meals, looking after. Not really any other calling, other than being a good person. She doesn't 'owe' me, but she does it all the same - that selfless grace and selfless care which is awesome.

## AMY



To begin with, my nana was a huge part of my faith and showing who Jesus was to me. And I remember going to church with her when I was three, and I don't really remember much about it but I just remember her taking me.

And since she passed, I still am finding my way and myself growing in my faith. She was such a big part of that, she's the one who planted the seed.

Anna was my first youth leader and I really liked that she pushed me to do new things, to be part of the youth planning team and paved my way to become a youth leader and volunteer. She's always been there for me and encouraging me. And Sammy is also part of why I am where I am today, and giving me opportunities.

Since I became a soldier, I become part of the corps leadership team - I would never have thought that when I was in high school... I was always a follower. Who would have thought I would be a leader?



#INHERITANCE

## TRACY



#INHERITANCE



So I think the person who jumps to mind is my grandmother, my maternal grandmother. She was a very strong Christian woman who was incredibly passionate about her faith and incredibly passionate about Jesus. She became a Christian later in life and once she was there, she was 100 percent there. I don't remember a time she wasn't very overt about the place of Jesus in her life. I used to love staying with her and I remember every night I would hear her having her time with God, worshipping, praying in tongues and praying out loud, and even though I was young I have this memory of feeling incredibly safe and held, and almost like I was embraced in worship.

And she was so consistent in her prayer times at night, and praying at night in tongues - that her budgie learnt to speak in tongues. All of a sudden, one day the budgie began saying the most random things and she realised it was mimicking her praying in tongues. It was a very spiritual budgie. She prayed for her grandchildren, every day, and I am 100% convinced that the reason I am here is because of her prayers and faithfulness, not just praying for me but over me.

The other thing I would say about the women in my life, I come from a long line of incredibly strong women who have lived a lot of pain. A lot of aunties, my mum, my grandmothers - who are fierce, courageous, strong women - who have battled ill-health, they have lost children, they have lost relationships, some of them have endured violent relationships and incredible hardship but they have persisted. And they are strong and they are fierce and there are times in my life I have thought, 'I can't do this, it's too hard'... and then I think of my mum and my aunties and my sisters and I think of my lineage, my strong courageous fierce women and I think, 'I CAN do this, I absolutely can'.

I'll just finish with, God will always put people in the gap, when at times I felt there might have been a gap in terms of women mentors, God will always, always provide. And not always who we expect, but always people who will pray, cry, correct, rebuke, encourage, tell us when we are being stupid... all of these things.

## TIANA



Someone who has influenced me? Probably my mum. I feel like everyone would say 'My mum'.

I have a particularly good mum, who, I guess in terms of being different to other mothers or other women I had seen in positions of influence - she was one who is particularly independent.

I like in my parent's marriage that they were kind of friends first. I like that she always had her own things going on, that were not only separate to my dad, but also separate to me. Alongside my mum it would also be my aunties, her sisters. They were a really early example of female relationship that was always quite honest, that wasn't hurtful or spiteful or bitter.



#INHERITANCE

J.O



#INHERITANCE



The 'her' would be my mum, she has definitely demonstrated selflessness, sacrificing a lot to provide for four kids on her own, battling adversities, whether that came from family or community, or schools we were at and just like that constant behind the scenes.

We saw she had done so much, and still to this day we support her, she's quite proud and that's who she is.

Growing up she didn't rely on anyone - 'fight your own battles' she'd say. I've taken that advice, sometimes, but I've found it hasn't helped if I keep myself closed off and I have the conversation, 'Who do I want to be? What kind of person do I want to be?'

The role model she has been in my life, growing up through domestic violence in the household, and my view of my own, 'to be in control is to be violent', to shape that mindset... if I have my own family I want to do better and do justice to them, get out of the 'hurt people hurt people' mindset. I love my mummy.

I'm showing grace where I can, and learning that for myself. Again, I love my mum.

KAITLYN



#INHERITANCE



I think that for me Tracy was definitely one of the people who really helped shaped me from a really young age. I don't have a memory without her in it.

When I'm looking at church and someone who is there, someone who has made me laugh, cry, frustrated, all of that - I absolutely love her. Especially with my journey through Hagar and her being my mentor through that space... she's really been able to take on that role and look after me saying, 'Hold up, you don't need to take on all this, do one thing at a time'. That made me see how to be a leader in that kind of space.

## RAY



#INHERITANCE



I think for me it's probably either my mum or my nana - I'll go mum. Mum and Dad split up quite early, so mum was always quite a big champion for us. She was always the one doing the boring stuff, like chasing us up on homework and making sure we had clothes and done the washing.

She had done a lot of it, and done a lot of it on her own. Mum was always doing stuff for us, she worked real hard. She was always working but always finds time to pick us up from school and make sure we got home without having to walk, she was always looking out for us. She was human, so she still had moments... but she was always doing the hard stuff, sticking up for us at parent-teacher nights.

Working hard, coming home, fixing up dinner - I always saw mum as sacrificing heaps because she didn't get to have much of a life outside of us.

She was always making sure we had everything we needed. That really impacted the way that I live life, because often I am overworking so that young people I am working with are getting everything that they need... I'm trying not to overburden myself too much. She was always carrying us on her back, metaphorically.

Definitely a few times where she wanted to cry and she put up with all of that, so that we never had it too hard, but she always made sure we had shoes without holes and enough food for the week. She was the one that looked out for us. Yeah, even when... she would still take me to youth group and kids club, even when she had left the church. She still wanted to... even though she had her own history, she didn't want us to lose out on community.

She still put us first and made sure we got to go along to youth camps and programs. It meant that we had a solid feed - even when money was really hard she always found a way to get through.

## LISA



#INHERITANCE



Okay. I first knew my mum as a neighbor who became a friend, and then my mum. She was someone who taught me how to love and how to give with nothing.

She gave to me what blood couldn't give me. It was like, she was mother figure that taught me a lot in life and cared for me while I was growing up.

She was my friend's mum, but now I call her mine. And now I go to see my mum, instead of my friend, when I go to see her now. I got a lot of love for her.

# STU



## #INHERITANCE



I think of my grandma when I think about, like, women who have influenced me. It's your grandma and you see them lots but hearing the stories other people tell me about my grandma are pretty cool. The bulletin just came out for Dan and Juan going to Wellington - and I said to them 'My grandma is about to email you, to ask what you're needing prayer for and if she can put you on the prayer chain'.

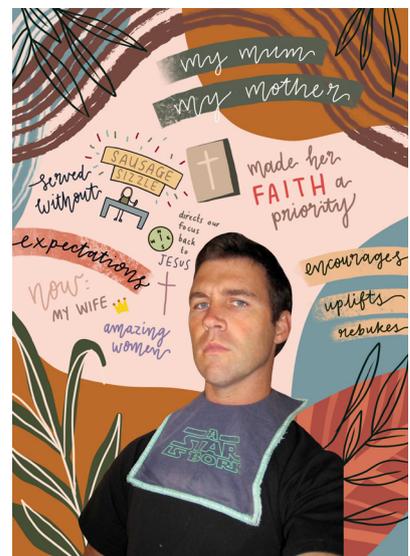
Dan replied not long later and said that's 100% what happened. It's a cool thought-process, because so many people tell me she's praying for them, she is praying for us and the faithfulness of that - of people who know of my grandma.

Like if you mention her name, they connect these things of my grandma caring for them, it's really cool. Same for my other grandma on my other side. I shared at her funeral - that both of my grandmas are 'aggressively hospitable'. It's a term that's been used to describe them.

They're welcoming and loving and even if you don't want to, you have no choice - 'I will make you a cup of tea, hot chocolate, choose. I'll get you something and make you part of the family.' That's a cool legacy to sit under and Grace, my wife, teases me all the time because I do the same thing. It's not, well it is, a learned behavior, it is the norm, someone has come in - we make them a coffee.

Coffee, tea, hot water, all of these things - so people are like 'Leave me alone, I don't want a drink', but then some people have this realization that in 'Can I get you something? I just want to get your something' you invite them to belong. I get that from my grandmas, that's pretty cool.

# KYLE



## #INHERITANCE



Mother. Mum cultivated in us a heart for others and was a woman that served without expecting anything in return. She encouraged her children to pursue what they loved.

Definitely I'd say my grandmother too was a very spirit-filled woman, and she would pray for us and she had the Holy Spirit's presence in her life. She went out of her way to make us all feel loved and accepted and for us, just really seeing her make her faith a focus - it was something for us to do as well.

And now, my wife, she is an amazing woman in that she does definitely bring out the best in me and what I can be. And she encourages and uplifts and rebukes, and gives really godly feedback and directs our focus back to Jesus.

# ASH



'There are many inspirational women in my life, but I will just talk about one example. One of my sisters started competing in weightlifting this year. Her first ever competition was a regional comp 2 months ago, where she lifted so well that she qualified for NZ North Island weightlifting championships. This comp just happened about 3 weeks ago.

Before the North Island champs, she was training really hard to prepare for it and putting all this work into it. The day came and she started feeling really sick with a massive headache and almost felt like spewing up. She had a heavy period and it was really bad the day of the competition, she was in a lot of pain, but she still drove up to the competition and she competed.

She did so well! She completed her lifts, came 6th place and is now a step closer to qualifying for New Zealand championships. I thought that was pretty inspirational, she was still able to compete through all the pain. I think this is what a lot of women do daily - work through the pain. Periods are normal, but it is pain that men don't feel. I think it's amazing how women bleed for almost a week every month and endure a lot of pain most times, but it doesn't stop them from achieving excellence.

I don't know if men would be able to handle the periods the same way. Anyways, my sister is a strong woman in every aspect!'

## #INHERITANCE



# BEVAN



I would just say I've inherited compassion for people, hospitality, lots of grace and that. I think just showing a way to kind of live life, having that faith - doing things out of love and not expecting things in return.



## #INHERITANCE

## NOAH



#INHERITANCE



I reckon the most obvious one would be my mother, alright? Someone who has always had my best interests in mind even if it wasn't her own. Someone who was consistently right, even when I don't want them to be. In my now early twenties there's a lot of reflection of like, at the time, ah, misunderstanding and rebellion but now understanding of motives and the acceptance of the fact she was right about a lot of things you know what I mean? She clicked on really quickly to what my passions were, what my creative nature is... something that I almost inherited from her and that family tree.

I would say - she nudged me in the right directions. It was not forceful, it was not let loose, it was nudging towards things that I didn't even know that I needed. When I wanted to start learning drums, she told me that I couldn't play drums until I had first learned to read music, and so they set me up on a brass instrument. And I enjoyed it, but I just wanted to play drums. And I couldn't understand why I wasn't allowed to... until I sit here now and understand that the foundational education that she set me up with, especially in music, is something that have served me greater than most other things in my life.

I get annoyed at her because she cares about me too much! She always wants to know how my day has gone and I haven't even processed it yet, so I don't want to tell her, but even though I am outwardly annoyed that she's asking - I think fundamentally I am always grateful that there is a mother-figure in my life who unconditionally cares and wants to know what is going on for me all the time.

Now in my early adult life, it's cool to have challenging discussions where I have formed my own opinions and we have open discussions about what is objectively, subjectively right and everything in between. And I enjoy being challenged on things that are being developed in myself. And I enjoy challenging her beliefs on what she has believed for a very long time. But at the end of the day, I just love her, that's all that matters. And I appreciate all she has done for me, always.

## CHANTELLE



#INHERITANCE



So people that I value in my life are the other young adults. And that's because we can just journey together and we talk about things we have in common and struggles.

And the group of us, we can have discussions about youth, who are girls, and how we can help them, and relate to them. And I value this group of girls because growing up I didn't have a hugely consistent youth leader in my life who was a woman and that I journeyed with really closely (However, now as a young adult I have many amazing women leaders and role models who support me)

So now the fact that I can invest in these girls and be the role model that I would want... I value that a lot.'

## RAEWYN



#INHERITANCE



When you first said it, one person jumped into my head straight away. When I was 8 I started Junior Soldiers, and she was my Sunday School teacher, Junior Soldier's leader and Corps Officer. Joy Hansen. She was the most amazing, loving, caring, person. She made you feel important and worthwhile. I suppose she was my first spiritual guide, and she really cared about what I did and who I was. Even, that was at Miramar, and we left when I turned 11 and she stayed in touch. I kept in touch with her all through the years and she used to write to me, I'd write back. She was at my wedding.

She was a really important person to me right through. She passed away when I was in Nelson and I couldn't go her funeral and that was really hard.

When we lived in Nelson, I had a lady - a spiritual director was her title - but she became a friend, that I used to be able to chat to. She was really helpful in guiding me in understanding myself.

As I grew up, especially as a teenager, I was always trying to be what everyone else wanted me to be. And especially my parents had a big influence there, they thought that I should be doing certain things, behaving certain ways, going certain directions... but when I was with this lady Christie. she helped me to discover who I really am, who I am meant to be - for me and not for someone else. Those would probably be the two.

Barbara Sampson was another person who - when we moved to Wainui - she picked up where Christie left off. She was really helpful and gave me a different perspective and helped me to work through things when things got tough.

## MOSHE



Okay well, I'll have to say first off - my mum. I would say seeing her faith through really hard times in our family has really inspired me to persevere with my relationship with God through tough times, because he never gives up on us.

Well, recently when I joined this college course, I've really struggled to do the assignments because it is very new to me, and Carla has been a real help and inspiration - preaching and showing me how to study and assignments and really helpful. I am so grateful.

And Rosy, you're an inspiration. The spoken words, they are so great and I think that's such a great way to express your heart in just a few words, without having to ramble on, but the words - every single word - means something and has a huge impact on whatever you're talking about. And it's not just a talk, it's a story, it's like from you, and even though it's from you, you can connect with other people in so many ways.



#INHERITANCE

# CHAR



#INHERITANCE



Okay, so women of influence in my life... I think there's a few women who stand out who have encouraged me, but I think in a way, growing up in The Salvation Army I've always seen women in leadership that have encouraged me that I can do anything I wanted to do. So I didn't have to... it wasn't unattainable to be a woman who was influential or a woman who would preach or could do anything, be anything that God has called me to be.

Which is really cool to me, to have an example, women that I look up to, fellow officers, officers who have mentored me, who have been encouraging and taking me under their wing and showing me different things. Giving me permission to do things or to do things that I am passionate about, to go for it. When I was younger - Fairtrade, changing all the coffee without needing to go through a big process. They're like, 'Yeah you should do it, it's the right thing to do!'.

I feel like I've been lucky that I have always had women role models and to be equal is not unattainable - to do things that men can do. The other thing that I think of I guess, is in the last few years there have been women in senior leadership positions in The Salvation Army.

And they have been there, doing their thing like bosses so that's cool - seeing that equality played out in The Salvation Army.

# ABBY



I mean the first person that comes to mind is Tracy - she has been in my life since I was six, wait, before that, since I was three. Consistently through childhood, she loved me even though she didn't have to.

And youth was always a safe space and even if life was insane, youth was safe, and calm, and comfortable and secure. She showed me how to lead. Like, I'm studying youthwork now and I don't think I would be doing that now if she wasn't in my life.

Definitely her and Sammy, they both showed me how to care for people. They live out their passions so well and so truthfully. They are not ashamed of it at all, they won't shy away and 99 percent of the time what they passionate about... that's 'others'.



#INHERITANCE

## ROSY



#INHERITANCE



My mum would lead the family in praying and reading the bible every night when I was growing up. When I was in my late teens I crashed a car really badly and I came home and found my mum crying on the steps and I asked what she was doing - she didn't know what had happened - and she said she was praying for me and my brothers.

I asked her why and she said that's what she did every morning... pray for us. And I hadn't realised that before. The influence of my mum helps me see how the Holy Spirit operates in men and women powerfully. When I became a leader in The Salvation Army, there were examples of really brave, courageous, sensitive, vulnerable, spirit-led women that showed me I, too, could lead in the same way.

When I began in Women's Ministries, I had a lot of incredible examples of women who held positions of power while being aware of the needs of others, and cared about me and stood in the gap to protect me and cover me spiritually. It was the continuation of what I'd been shown in my whakapapa; my Dad's mother is a professor and I'm really proud of her and her confidence and conviction as she teaches anthropology in universities in America.

My Oma worked on a farm all her life and raised my father, and is an example of resilience and toughness, moving to a land and culture that wasn't her own in New Zealand. My mum's mother was involved in The Salvation Army, as was her mother - who was one of the first women to own a car in New Zealand. She would go around visiting the sick and lonely. My own community of friends, mentors, sisters... encourage me daily with their insight, reverence and wisdom.

Through the ministries I've stepped into, I've become more and more proud of being a woman and seeing the hand of God revealed in women... and in the next generation and communities I'm a part of, because I believe the Good News should be Good News for all of us.



A woman that's been most influential in my life would be my mum. We have a super solid relationship. She's super important to me and we're really close. When I'm going through hard stuff and struggling, then I know that I can call my mum and have a chat to her about it, and she'll support me through that. It goes

both ways, and she talks to me about her struggles and we can support each other through what's going on.

She's a super caring and loving person and she gives her all for others, and wants to see others super happy. And just like, in their best place sort of thing. That's kind of passed on to me, in a way that I want the best for others and that they can achieve their best, and achieve their goals.

Bringing their best out of them, that's what brings me joy and I think I got that from my mum. And you know that, yeah, she's loving and just an amazing person. And, I think, I know that some of the things that I have kept from her have hurt her, but then also, once I told her, it made our connection stronger. It made each other understand each other more, and so, super grateful for who my mum is and wouldn't trade her for any other mum eh. Super amazing. That's my mum.

## PHIL



#INHERITANCE

## KRIS



#INHERITANCE



My mum raised me as a single mum, I think I learnt a lot from her by example. Things are harder when you're by yourself, my mum learned what she learned from my grandma, and we moved to New Zealand: my mum, my grandma and me.

She gave me her first Bible from when she became Christian and I lost it, it was gone for 10- 15 years. Then my cousin was going through a difficult time, figuring things out, needing comfort. She was a big reader, and she hit up secondhand bookstores a lot – she bought a bible and she opened it up and saw my mum's handwriting and notes and stuff. She called her up and she was like 'Is it yours?' It was. She found it decades later.

My grandma was married to a Hindu priest and he was very authoritarian and zealous about Hinduism and my grandma converted to Christianity... he would probably have killed her for that – that's why we moved here. And that's why my mum's faith has passed through the generations – I see my mum and her faith and that's a great example for me. She made sure that I got involved in church and gave it my best and learned and followed. And yeah, maybe if I am ever a parent I will pass that on to my daughter or son – faith is about everyday actions and about being your real, authentic self with people.

My wife is my best example of female leadership in my life. And she's a natural leader, she has an innate leadership quality that I admire and love her for, and it's cool to have someone so close to you that you can learn from. The way she leads fills the deficiencies in the way I lead, so I learn from her.

I might get a bit hot-headed, wear my heart on my sleeve at times when it's not appropriate but Vanessa is really good at having a measured tongue and measured temperament. She will unload later, but in the moment she is wise, and that's something that I really admire about her and her leadership. And that's how I see women in my life, shaping me and continuing to shape me.



It's too big a list, I feel I wouldn't do it justice. Look, okay, I love words so... influential women have been, and continue to be, ever-present in my life so this is why it's hard to choose one – there are a lot. I've grown up with a mother who has been incredibly influential and co-equal in influence with my father.

That has had an overflow on to my sisters, who also continue to be very influential. I often go to them for advice and guidance on things. I am married to someone who influences me a lot and I go to her as well. I think another thing that has been very profound has been trying to understand where that comes from, you know? I am super privileged to have super strong women around me, and I think 'And who made them who they are?'

It's amazing to know Missy's mum and nana, a lot of who she is is a product of people like them. Jeannine Serevi, who influences Missy, who influences me. My mother's life, her mother, my nana... also where she's come from. My family is really interested in genealogy – you can draw these lines back and see the continual influence of influential women generation after generation. I sit somewhere at the tail end of receiving all of that.

Yeah. Just like the Gospel of John says, there are too many stories to write down.

## JORDAN



#INHERITANCE