

Unusual Accounts – Judah & Tamar

Questions to discuss or think about

It might be difficult to read the entire chapter (because of its length) so read it ahead of time as the leader and direct people to specific parts of the story.

1. Was there ever a time you felt disqualified from doing something because of past decisions or mistakes? What was that like?
2. Read Genesis 37:26-27. What was Judah's involvement in his brother, Joseph's, disappearance?

38:1-11

3. Why might Judah have moved away from his family and married a Canaanite?
4. What was Judah's responsibility to Tamar and to his own family?
5. What was Tamar's impossible position at the end of verse 11? Can she remarry?
6. List Judah's sins. Who has been hurt by them?

Read Genesis 38:12-30

7. What prompted Tamar to take action in v12-14? What did she do?
8. How did Judah react to the news of Tamar's pregnancy? What was Judah's confession when the truth was revealed?
9. Tamar tricked Judah into making her the mother of his heirs. How were Tamar's actions "righteous"?
10. Read Genesis 44:30-34. Judah begged for Benjamin's life before the man he did not recognize as his brother Joseph. How has Judah changed? Who was he concerned for now?
11. Read Matthew 1:1-3. How were Tamar and Judah remembered in the New Testament?
12. What does this story teach you about the grace of God?