

February 4, 2018 Tamar

For the Facilitator – This is a heavy story. But we feel it is important. Remember Isaac had two sons, Jacob and Esau. The sons of Jacob became the twelve tribes of Israel. Judah in this story is one of those sons. Look at the genealogies in Matthew 1:3 and Luke 3:33 and see how this story fits in the total Biblical story. Hold this information until the end of the discussion but do bring it up. Be well prepared!

Open in Prayer and Welcome/Introductions

Remind the group of DiscipleGroup Guidelines (Confidentiality, Don't Rescue Don't Fix, No Crosstalk, Use Humor Responsibly, Give Everyone a Chance to Share, Use "I" Statements.)

DISCIPLEMAKER QUESTIONS

- Last week we looked at Abraham's greatest test of faith. What has changed in your life because of what you learned last week? Are there any more thoughts on that story?
- How are your relational investments going?

Ask a "hook question" to get the group going.

- Do you tend to see yourself as a victim or as someone with choices? How do you think this affects your behavior?

Share background for the story.

This week we will look at a story in the life of one of the sons of Jacob, Judah, who became the father of the tribe of Judah.

Tell the story with your Bible open on your lap – Genesis 38:1-26. This week's story is about one of the sons of Jacob, named Judah and his daughter-in-law, Tamar.

Group members rebuild the story one piece at a time.

Read Genesis 38:1-26 out loud. Were there any important details left out of the telling or retelling of the story?

Discuss these questions:

1. What do you learn about God in this story?
2. What do you learn about the characters in the story?
3. What stood out to you in this story?
4. Why is Tamar "more righteous" than Judah?
5. What do you find uncomfortable or encouraging about this story?

Ask someone to retell the story.

Assign next week's passage. Genesis 39:1-23. Joseph and Potiphar's wife.

Close in Prayer.