

Joseph: experiencing
the God who rescues

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Genesis 38 -
The inheritance goes to...?

15th September 2019
**The inheritance
goes to...?**

Genesis 38

•Strange Customs?

•The highway code to Chapter 38

The 'be separate and don't intermarry' rule

The 'provide for your sister-in-law' rule

•Judah's love for all things 'Canaan' (v1)

•Judah's Lust (v2)

- **Judah's family fortunes (v3-11)**

- **The evil of Er (v6-7)**

- **The evil of Onan (v8-10)**

- **Enforced widowhood (v11)**

- **Tamar—takes the law into her own hands (v12-19)**

● **Shameful damage limitation (v20-24)**

● **Confronting sin – a glimmer of hope (v25-26)**

● **God makes a way—a child is born (v27-30)**

1.

2.

3.

Get thinking

Do we live as though there are certain areas of life God isn't concerned with?

Growth group questions

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You will find it helpful to have heard the talk so why not listen at <http://leightonbaptists.org.uk/media-links/current-teaching/>

Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.

1. Read Chapter 38. It is a difficult one for our context where we see God's truth written about a very different culture. How does this challenge or shape your understanding of how God might 'fit' with our culture?
2. Compare what we learn about Joseph in Ch37 with what we learn about Judah in Ch38. Choose 3 words to define each in these verses.
3. The talk spoke about the '*lust-filled objectifying attitude towards women that acts like a rip tide under the surface*' of Judah and his family. Can you think of 2-3 examples of where we see this in our world.? Why is it so damaging? As Christians, what should we do about it?
4. Think about Tamar. What does her behaviour demonstrate about her in v12-19. Why do you think she is never criticised in the bible?
5. Read v26. How is Judah's statement true? What does it show about Judah?
6. God works through the strangest of circumstances (Ruth 4:12, Matthew 1:3), even through people's sin. Why does this not justify sin? What does it show us about God?
7. '*It is possible to be in the right place, in the right family but without being righteous.*' How should we respond to this statement?

Choose 1 challenge each from these verses and pray them for one another.