



Sermon Conversation Guide – *The Story of Tamar*

1. What is the most *unexpected* gift you have ever received, whether a birthday or Christmas gift?

Read Matthew 1:1-3

2. Why is the inclusion of Tamar an unexpected detour in the genealogy of Jesus? What might Matthew be trying to teach us about God's way of salvation, here?

Read Genesis 38

3. Half of Tamar's story is a story of being on the receiving end of one tragedy after another, seemingly God-forsaken. Not until verse 14 does she become the subject of action ("*she disguised herself...*"). When have you found yourself in an unexpected detour in life? What did your powerlessness teach you about yourself, and the Lord?
4. Keith mentioned four detours that Tamar experienced: (1) tragedy of Er's death, (2) abusive relationship with Onan, (3) disgraced as a widow, (4) deception of Judah. Talk about what resonated with you or challenged you in these episodes.
5. What good news did you hear in the sermon that you needed to hear? How is Jesus inviting you into his way of salvation

Care & Prayer

To finish the time together, break up into triads (groups of 3) and take some time to find out how one another are really doing, and then pray for one another.

Circles: "Small groups of people meeting regularly to grow spiritually."

CARE SCRIPTURE PRAYER