

# **Worship in the Weeds**

## **Genesis 38: Tamar**

**14 August 2022**

---

Weeds represent things that are all around us in life, that can bring us difficulty, pain, and hardship. However, real weeds can both harm and bring benefits to life around them.

- 1) Weeds can and will impact your view of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Weeds can \_\_\_\_\_ us.
- 3) Christianity is a faith that flourishes under suffering.

---

Who are Judah and Tamar?

Judah is one of the 12 sons of Jacob (Israel). Judah left his family and married a Canaanite woman. They had three sons, one of them named Er. (Gen. 38:1-3) Tamar married Er. (Gen. 38:6)

---

Tamar's Weeds:

- 1) Moved from family, placed into foreign culture/family.
  - a. Loss of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Sudden death of spouses and no children.
  - a. Tragedy, despair, grief, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Deceived by father-in-law.
  - a. Prolonged \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Tamar's Redemption and Worship:

- 1) Identity \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) H\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ in action.

## **Worship in the Weeds**

### **Genesis 38: Tamar**

---

Sometimes it can be powerful and encouraging to share our struggles and encourage one another. Sometimes we need to just be patient and listen to the stories of others. Through sharing we can realize that others have been through the weeds like us. We can gain strength from how God is working in, around, and through each of us. Take time to share your stories, be patient, be kind, and understand that not all stories have a “happy ending,” **yet**. But our story is not over. As we’ll see, long after Tamar died, her pain became apart of the greatest story ever told in the Messiah. And in time, we will be with Jesus and have a greater understanding of the purpose of all of this we are facing now. Let us encourage one another and pray together!

---

- 1) What are now or have been weeds in your life? How have you faced these trials? Do you have any stories of feeling hopeless or overwhelmed in the weeds?
- 2) Do you have any stories of growth and good that came out of living in the weeds?
- 3) Do you have any stories of being able to worship in the weeds?
- 4) Read Matthew 1:3 together. What do you think the significance of this short, seemingly unimportant verse is now that you’ve gone through the story of Tamar?
- 5) Take time to pray for one another and cry out to God to redeem your story according to His will.