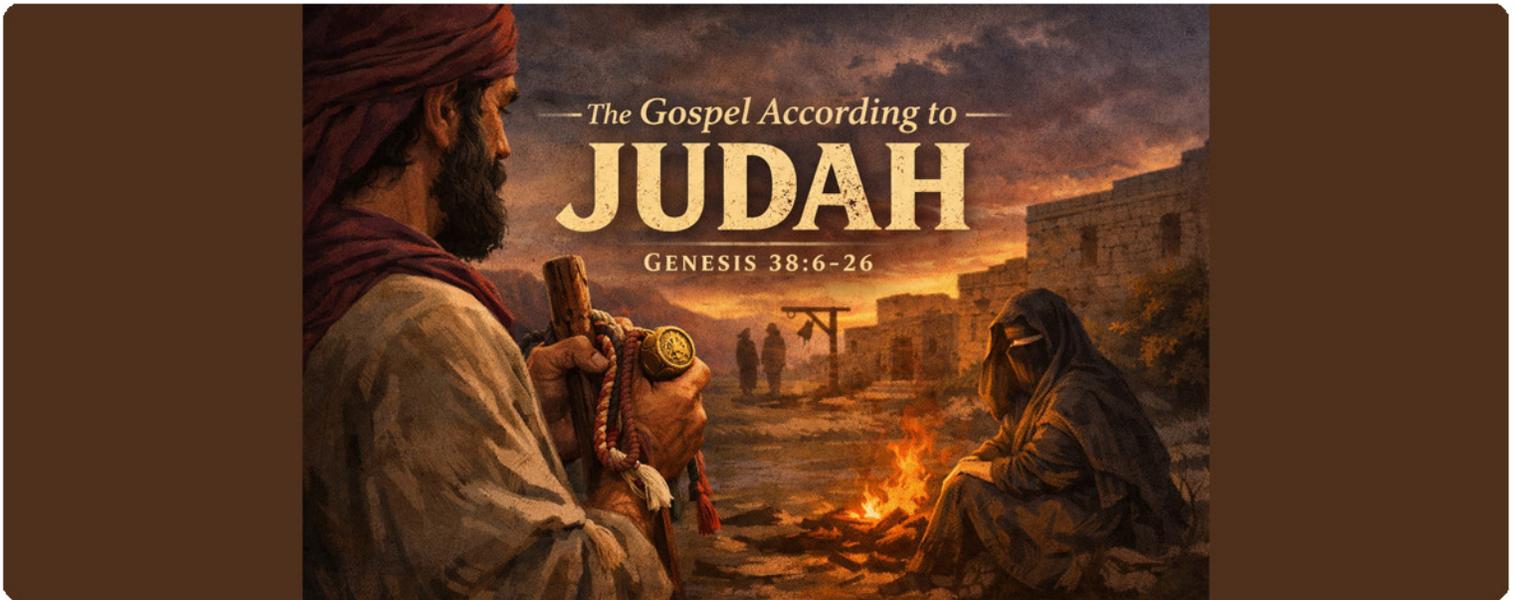




Life Group  
Sermon Guide Questions  
8 MARCH 2026



### Read Genesis 38

Genesis 38 interrupts Joseph's story. Why do you think God intentionally places this scandalous chapter here? The sermon suggested that most biblical characters are deeply flawed. Why do you think Scripture so honestly records the failures of its "heroes"?

### Judah's Injustice:

- 1) List the specific injustices Judah commits against Tamar. Which one strikes you most strongly and why?
- 2) Who are the "widows" (vulnerable people) in our culture today? Read Exodus 22:22–24. What does this passage reveal about God's character?
- 3) Read Isaiah 10:1–2. Why does God speak so forcefully about injustice?
- 4) The sermon argued that commentators often focus on Tamar's sexual sin while missing Judah's injustice. Why do you think we tend to prioritize certain sins over others?
- 5) Read Hosea 4:14. What is God exposing in that passage? How does it parallel Genesis 38?

# The Gospel According to Judah

## 8 MARCH 2026

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### **Double Standards:**

- 6) What double standards do you see in Judah's response to Tamar? Why was Judah so quick to call for her execution?
- 7) Read Matthew 7:3–5. Where do you most easily see “specks” in others while ignoring “logs” in yourself?
- 8) Can you think of areas in church culture where “respectable sins” are tolerated but others are aggressively condemned?
- 9) Where are you tempted toward moral superiority?

### **The Courtroom Moment:**

- 10) What emotions do you imagine Judah felt when Tamar produced the signet, cord, and staff?
- 11) Have you ever experienced a moment where God exposed your hypocrisy? What did that produce in you?
- 12) Why is awareness of our sin central to spiritual growth?

### **The Gospel in the Genealogy**

- 13) Read Matthew 1:3–6. Why do you think Tamar is intentionally included in Jesus' genealogy? Why is it significant that women—particularly those with scandal attached to their stories—are named?
- 14) What does this genealogy teach us about the kind of people God uses?
- 15) In what ways does this encourage you about your own past?

### **Grace Greater Than Sin**

- 16) How does Judah's declaration over Tamar foreshadow the greater declaration of righteousness in Christ?
- 17) What does it mean practically to be “declared righteous”?

