

## How God Straightens Out a Crooked Life Genesis 38

God straightens out my crooked life by helping me...

### **Break out of my selfishness**

"There Judah met the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua. He married her and lay with her." (v. 2)

"But Onan knew that the offspring would not be his; so [he purposefully did not fulfill his responsibility to produce] offspring for his brother." (v. 9)

Judah then said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Live as a widow in your father's house until my son Shelah grows up." (v. 11)

"... she took off her widow's clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife." (v. 14)

"For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."  
(James 3:16)

I'm guilty of selfishness in this area: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Break out with repentance**

"Judah recognized them and said, 'She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her to my son Shelah.' And he did not sleep with her again." (v. 26)

Confession: agreeing that I was wrong.

Repentance: turning away from what is wrong.

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord." (Acts 3:19)

I want to repent of \_\_\_\_\_

### **Break Out with God's grace**

"When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. As she was giving birth, one of them put out his hand; so the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his wrist and said, 'This one came out first.' But when he drew back his hand, his brother came out, and she said, 'So this is how you have broken out!' And he was named Perez. Then his brother, who had the scarlet thread on his wrist, came out and he was given the name Zerah." (vv. 27-30)

"A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar." (Matthew 1:1-3)

“But where sin increased, grace increased all the more.” (Romans 5:20b)

I’m counting on God’s grace to change \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion**

I’m asking God to straighten out my life.