

## WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

# TAMAR

**Pray** and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

**Read** the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

**Begin** to answer the questions using your own words.

*Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.*

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### Lesson 6 • October 24, 2012

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Leah and Rachel** has been helpful to you?

#### SECTION I: Read Genesis 38:1-11

2. From last week's lesson, who is Judah? Give facts about his family from **V1-5**.
3. Who is Tamar, and what is her relationship to Judah?
4. According to **V7**, what happened to Er and why?
5. Read **Deuteronomy 25:5-6**. What was Onan's duty to Tamar?
6. How might Onan's death have been a way God showed kindness to Tamar?
7. a) What is the given reason and the real reason Judah sent Tamar away? (**V11**)  
  
b) Instead of protecting his son by sending Tamar away, what else could Judah have done (especially in raising his sons)?

7. c) Parents can be blinded to their children's wickedness or selfishness at the expense of someone else. Where or when have you seen that played out?

**SECTION II: Read Genesis 38:12-23**

8. From **V12-14**, what motivates Tamar to act?
9. Summarize the events described in **V13-19**.
10. What could have been the reason(s) that Tamar took matters into her own hands in such a drastic way?
11. Describe how Tamar must have felt about the way she was treated all of those years in Judah's family.
12. What character traits (good and bad) have surfaced in Tamar thus far?
13. Recount how Judah tries to repay his debt in **V20-23**.

**SECTION III: Read Genesis 38:24-30**

14. In your own words, rewrite the chain of events that occur in **V24-26**.
15. What do you think about Judah's reaction:
- a) in **V24**?
  - b) in **V26**?

15. c) Have you ever been exposed in the heat of your own self-righteous behavior? When and how?

16. List all of the blessings Tamar receives from **V25-30** and **Matthew 1:3**.

17. We really see “the good, the bad, and the ugly” in this story.

a) What hope does Tamar’s story give to you (perhaps in your own family’s dysfunction)?

b) Form a prayer based on your answer.

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### DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) Tamar was persistent. What do you learn about Godly persistence from the following verses?

**Luke 11:5-8** \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 18:1-8** \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 6:9** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 10:36-39** \_\_\_\_\_

b) In what area of your life do you need to be more persistent?

2. What warning will you take to heart regarding a wrong type of persistence as seen in **Deuteronomy 29:18-21**?

3. Suggested Memory Verse: **Galatians 6:9**

