

Judah Sells Joseph as a Slave

1. Carefully read through Genesis 37-38. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 37:9, "Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, 'Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.'"
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 37-38.
4. What does God reveal to Joseph in a dream? Where else has God spoken to someone in a dream in Genesis? What warnings do we find in Deuteronomy 13:1-3 and Jeremiah 23:25?
5. Why do Joseph's brothers want to kill him? What happens instead? How is this similar or different from other accounts about brothers in Genesis?

6. How do Joseph's brothers deceive their father? How is this similar to the way Jacob deceived his father? What can we learn from the theme of deception in Genesis?

7. Who does Judah marry? What do we know about the Canaanites from Genesis 9:25? What happens to their first two sons? Why?

8. Why does Tamar expect to marry Judah's youngest son (Deuteronomy 25:5-10)? Why doesn't Judah allow this? Is his fear legitimate? Does he keep his word?

9. Who is Judah's friend (38:12, 20-22)? Is he a good influence on Judah? Who do Judah and his friend think Tamar was? What is a cult prostitute?

10. What are the names of the two sons of Judah and Tamar? In what ways are they related to Judah? Who is the rightful heir of Judah and Shua? Who is the rightful heir of Judah and Tamar? How does this chapter relate to Joshua 2? How does this chapter relate to Joshua 7?