

God's Hand in Tamar's Life

God is a good Father. So, you are loved by Him!
 Jesus wants to be your Saviour. He also wants to be your Healer.
 God can forgive, restore, and help you. So, if you make Jesus the Lord of your life, good things will come from your hurt and pain.
 Say this prayer for your Salvation:
 Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus.
 Please forgive me for my sins, as I believe Jesus died for me on the cross.
 Father, thank You for raising up Jesus from the dead.
 Jesus, I ask You to come into my heart, and to be the Lord of life my today. In the Name of Jesus, I pray,
 Amen.
 (For reference read Romans 10:9 & 10)
 A prayer for your healing:
 Father God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus.
 I need Your healing hand in my life. Holy Spirit, you know my story. Please come and touch me today. I receive Your healing to restore my soul. In the Name of Jesus Christ. Thank You.
 Amen.

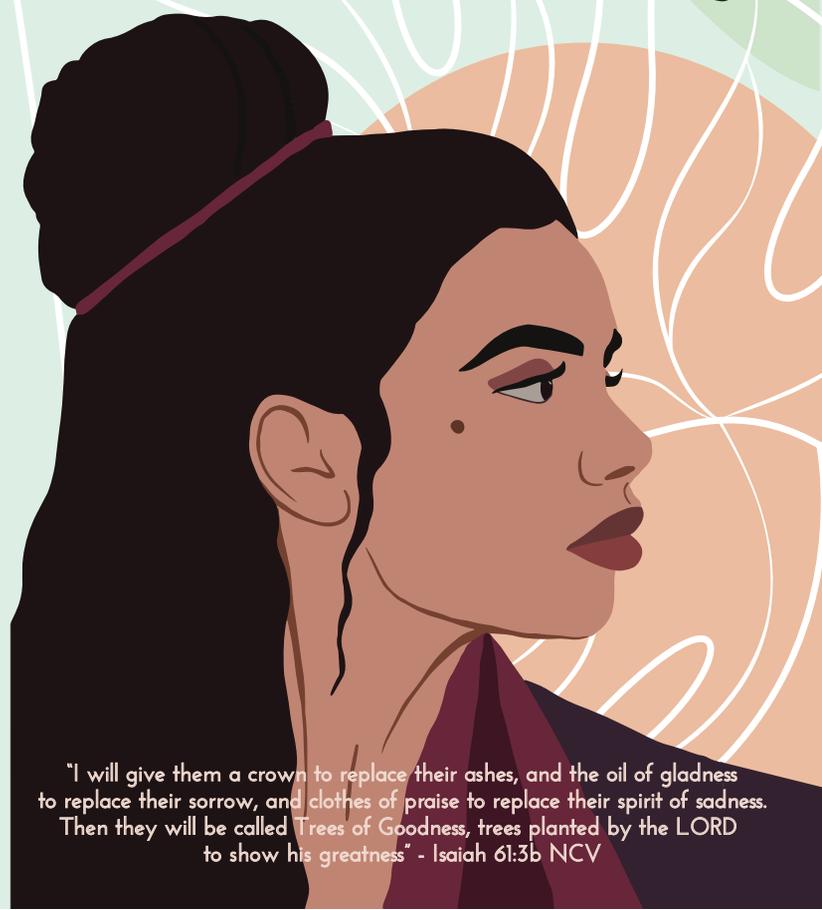
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Tamar's Story

Tamar's Story

A royal tragedy



"I will give them a crown to replace their ashes, and the oil of gladness to replace their sorrow, and clothes of praise to replace their spirit of sadness. Then they will be called Trees of Goodness, trees planted by the LORD to show his greatness" - Isaiah 61:3b NCV

Tamar was a virgin daughter of King David.
 One day Amnon's friend, Jonadab, asked Amnon why he was sad most of the time. Amnon told Jonadab that he was in love with Tamar, and wanted her for himself, but the law said no. (Leviticus 18:11, 20:17).
 Jonadab said to Amnon that he should play sick; and then ask his father, King David, to send Tamar to make and serve him some food. Amnon did as Jonadab said. So, after King David came, he called Tamar to serve Amnon at his house.
 Tamar went to Amnon's house, and she prepared the food where he was. Amnon told all the servants to leave the room. He then asked Tamar to bring the food to his bedroom.
 In his bedroom, Amnon grabbed Tamar. He said, "Come sleep (have sex) with me" (2 Samuel 13:11).
 Tamar protested and said, "No, my brother!" She asked her brother not to violate her in this way because it would cause deep hurt and shame for both of them. She said to Amnon, that he should rather ask King David if he could marry her. But Amnon would not listen. Being much stronger, he forced himself on her, and raped her.
 Afterwards, Amnon's love for Tamar turned into hatred, so he told her to leave his house. Tamar refused to go, saying his act of forcing her to go now would offend her even more. The law required a man who raped an unmarried virgin woman, to take her as his wife for life, not divorcing her as long as he lives (Deuteronomy 22:28-29).
 Amnon did not listen to Tamar. He told his servant to throw his sister out of his house. Tamar then tore her robe. She also put ashes on her head, to show her sorrow, and went away crying.
 Her other brother, Absalom, took her into his house, where she lived as a lonely woman.

Read Tamar's story in the Bible in 2 Samuel 13:1-20

Tamar was a woman of virtue and good character, as she was a God-fearing, and law-abiding woman. So, being a virgin, she said no to Amnon, who wanted sex with her.
 She had a serving heart, so she obeyed her father David when he asked her to help Amnon.
 She was trusting, even when Amnon told the servants to go, so she could take the food to his bedroom.
 She showed great strength and courage in her many no's towards Amnon and his evil requests for sex.
 The last we read of Tamar in the Bible is when she lived with her brother, Absalom, a lonely and sad woman. You cannot determine what will happen to you in life, but you can, with God's help, choose how you are going to respond to it. You can also receive God's healing so that you can live out your life to the full.
 What happened to Tamar, hurt her, but it did not take away the good that God had put in her. You can also choose to turn to God. You can choose for the wrong things done to you, not to control you and your future.
 Rather, be strong and brave. Turn your life and your hurt over to Jesus Christ. Then you can wear your crown, and choose to live the good life God planned for you!