



Just When You Count Yourself Out
The Women of Jesus
Group Discussion Guide

Leading Off:

Where is the farthest place you've ever traveled?

Scripture:

Ephesians 2:8-9,13

To imagine what the western world might look like if not for the influence of Christianity, look no further than to the nations around the world where Christianity has little to no influence. In places like China where baby girls are discarded – India, where women are subjected to forced marriages, many in their youth; and in most Islamic-led nations where women are still denied even the most basic of human rights.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think it is about Jesus' message that's so liberating for women?
2. What is the most liberating thing about Jesus' message?

Like Tamar, it is the recognition of our moral downfall, not our righteous living, that brings us into connection with the lineage of Jesus.

3. What's one thing you learned about Tamar's story that you didn't know before?
4. What caused you to recognize your own moral downfall and need for a Savior? How did you respond?

Like Rehab, neither my sin, my past, nor my present will keep God from including me in His plan, nor will it keep me from experiencing God's forgiveness and redemption through Christ.

5. What is one thing you learned about Rahab's story that you didn't know before?
6. How have you experienced God using even your downfall for his glory?

Like Ruth, we are all alienated from God apart from Christ our Redeemer.

7. What is one thing you learned about Ruth's story that you didn't know before?
8. Do you remember the moment God first moved toward you? How did you respond?

Like Bathsheba, even my mistakes are redeemable by God.

9. What's the biggest mistake you've ever made?
10. What's the biggest mistake you've ever made that you've now seen redeemed by God?

One to Grow On (This Week's Growth Challenge):

Just when you count yourself out, God shows up in your life in the most unexpected of ways, reminding you of his love for you, and of His power to redeem and to restore. In what ways have you or do you now count yourself out when it comes to God using you to make a difference in the world around you? Take a moment and examine your heart. Share your thoughts with a friend and pray for one another. May God give you strength and surround you with His presence, and may you live the life that God Himself created you to live, for His glory! Amen!