

An Unlikely Candidate
An Unexpected Christmas
December 5, 2021

Notes:

Questions for Personal Reflection & Group Discussion

Read Matthew 1:1-2.

Why did Matthew begin the story of Jesus with a list of Jesus' relatives? What was his purpose?

Matthew seems to go out of his way to emphasize the fact that not everyone in Jesus' family tree had it all together. Why do you think he included someone like Judah in the list?

Read Genesis 37:23-35 and 38:1-30.

What character traits do you see of Judah's in these verses? What kind of person was he?

In what ways do you identify with Judah?

Read Genesis 44:18-34.

What is different about Judah's attitude and actions at this point in the story?

What does it mean to you personally that God chooses to use the broken, the dysfunctional, the messy, to bring the story of grace, hope, forgiveness, and belonging to the world?

How does it make a difference in your life to know that God chooses you to be part of His story? How will you live that out this Christmas?