



Ruth

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021

Key Scripture: Ruth 1:1-5

DISCUSSION GUIDE

This week we start a four week series on the book of Ruth. The book of Ruth opens by giving us a snapshot into a couple of people who are experiencing life's struggles in some of the worst days of Israel's history. Yet, the book ends with the brightest ray of hope. We learn this week about Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth. Have you ever needed of a second chance due to a bad decision? Have you ever wondered if there could be a second chance? Today's message shows us how God has so much more in store for us than just a second chance. A life once destroyed by sin can still be raised up and blessed again.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a CV group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. Read the key scripture. How did they get to the place where Naomi was a widow in a foreign land with two widowed daughters-in-law? Consider the circumstances and decisions that lead to their condition.
3. What wisdom do you take from Naomi's choice to return to the land of Judah?
4. Read Ruth 1:18-22. Now, put yourself in the place of Naomi returning to her home town poor and widowed and in the place of Ruth, a foreigner in a strange country. How would it feel to return to your hometown empty handed?
5. In the middle of her situation Ruth responds to Naomi in verse 16, "But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." What stands out to you about Ruth's statement?
6. Like Naomi, we often ignore God's goodness in our lives. Naomi could not see how Ruth was part of God's provision in the midst of her difficulties. Is there something (or someone) in your life right now that may be God's graceful provision for you?
7. Recall biblical examples of people who have suffered loss or hardship as part of God's bigger plan? Are there instances in which those people did not see the fulfillment of His plan? (for reference, consider Hebrews 11)
8. What evidence is there in Ruth 1 that Naomi and Ruth still have faith in the LORD God? What evidence is there that God has good plans for Naomi and Ruth?
9. What's one thing you learned from Sunday's message and today's discussion that will help you become a better disciple of Christ, and help others do the same?

NOW WHAT?

Read Psalm 51 every day this week.

