

JOURNEY

Part Eight: God, our Restorer and Sustainer Ruth 4

Ruth's life is redeemed from distant to immersed	vs. 1-13
Boaz goes to court and makes it official	vs. 1-10
The community gives its blessing	vs. 11-13
Naomi's life returns from empty to full	vs. 14-17
Naomi receives a son from Ruth and Boaz	vs. 14-15
Obed = <i>servant</i> or <i>serving</i>	
'Restorer' = God causes to return, to bring back	
'sustainer' = intensely maintain, contain – surplus	
Naomi raised Obed as her own son	vs. 16-17
'took the child and laid him on her lap' = foster-mother	
God orchestrated this story to keep His promises	vs. 18-22
Messiah was to come through tribe of Judah	Genesis 49:8-12
'Shiloh' is a reference to Messiah Jesus	
Perez is Judah's son of the promise	
The House of King David will produce Messiah Jesus	
God loves all people from all people groups	Romans 3:28-30
God always makes a way of salvation	
Auburn Grace Community Church – March 3rd, 2024	

Life Group Discussion Questions – March 3, 2024

Ruth 4:14-15 Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed is the LORD who has not left you without a redeemer today, and may his name become famous in Israel. May he also be to you a restorer of life and a sustainer of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you and is better to you than seven sons, has given birth to him."

DISCOVER

1. Describe Ruth's journey toward God throughout the book of Ruth. Whether you are a new or long-time believer, how has your journey toward God progressed throughout life? What specific parts of Ruth's journey were dependent on the kindness of others? What parts of your journey were also dependent on the kindness and grace of others?
2. Ruth 4:14 and 15 show God to be a redeemer and a sustainer. What does it mean to be redeemed? How was Ruth redeemed? What does it mean to be sustained? How was Ruth sustained? Describe how Jesus is the final answer to redemption and sustenance. In what concrete ways does Jesus provide for you in your daily walk?

EXPLORE

1. Read Genesis 49:8-10. Who is Shiloh referring to? Which tribe was Jesus to come from? How does this play into the book of Ruth? What message should be learned by God including Rahab, mother of Boaz, and Ruth, a Moabitess, in the lineage of Jesus?
2. Read Romans 3:28-30. Which people groups or races does God love? How do you see God's love for Gentiles demonstrated in Boaz and Ruth? Under what circumstances did God direct His chosen people to stay away from other nations? How is this different than living in isolation as chosen people or feeling above other groups?
3. Read Ruth 4:1-13. Why was it important for Boaz to go through a detailed and public process before taking Ruth as his wife? What might have gone wrong if Boaz didn't follow Jewish cultural norms before claiming his right of redemption? Why is it wise to make some matters public such as accepting Christ, baby dedications, baptisms and more?

EXPERIENCE

1. Boaz and Ruth named their son Obed, which means "serving". Contrast this with Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Chilion, and the meaning of their names. How do we encourage children, grandchildren or friends with nicknames? Why do some people like to assign demeaning nicknames to others?
2. Naomi faltered when her life was turned upside down. How are you preparing to rely on God in times of trouble to avoid the missteps of Naomi? Naomi embraced and thrived in the God given gifts that came primarily from the relationship of Boaz and Ruth. What amazing gifts has God bestowed on you?
3. How is God taking our hardships and refilling us? How have you seen God in some of the unexpected twists and turns of your life?
4. What is your plan for continuing your journey toward God in obedience to the Almighty? How is your life part of the grand story of God's work?

PRAY

Pray...Father, please give us eyes to see and ears to hear so that we can carry Your mission through to completion. You redeem us and sustain us through Your perfect love. Show us how to come alongside others to encourage and sustain those in need. Through this we have the opportunity to love You and love others as Jesus commanded. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.