

Group/Individual Study

Series: "This is Us" - Ruth

Passages: Ruth 1-4

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 7/23

1. Read Ruth Chapter 1. The book of Ruth is about three ordinary people who chose to act with loyalty, compassion, and character at important and difficult points in their life journeys. What do you see Ruth and Naomi do in this chapter that is uncommonly good and noble? What impresses itself on your heart as you read this chapter?
2. Read Ruth Chapter 2. How does Boaz also choose to act righteously and with compassion? How does word of Ruth's uncommon loyalty to Naomi affect Boaz when he hears about it? How does hearing about another person's kindness, compassion, or loyalty affect you? Whose story has had that effect on you lately?
3. Read Ruth Chapter 3. Israel has a concept in their culture of the "kinsman redeemer." It held that if a woman's husband died and she and any of her children fell on hard times, a near male relative would marry her and take care of her. How do Ruth and Naomi attempt to have Boaz step into that role? How is the concept of the "kinsman redeemer" a prototype of what Jesus does for us?
4. Read Ruth 4. List all the ways that these three people: Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz have chosen to live with love, loyalty, and integrity in these chapters. None of them were famous people in Israel, yet their story was important enough in what it teaches that it was included in the Bible. What do you think are the main things this book teaches?
5. Look at the genealogy of David that flows down from Ruth and Boaz at the end of Chapter 4. See how the genealogy of Jesus also flowed down from them in Matthew 1:5 and 16. There were "ripples of blessing" that extended out into the future from the righteous actions of Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz. How do you think that may go on today through the lives of ordinary Christ followers?