

Schedule September 28

- Transition into teaching time (3 minutes)
- Teaching (15 minutes)
- Transition into your small group (5 minutes)
- Small Groups (25 minutes)
 - Journal: (10 minutes)
 - Small Group Discussion (5 minutes)
 - Prayer: 5 minutes
 - What do you need to confess to God?
 - What do you need prayer for?
 - Who do you know needs prayer?
 - Hand out rewards (5 minutes)
 - Brining their bible – reward
 - Recite memory verse from last week – reward
 - Memorize their new bible verse – practice

MEMORY VERSE: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.” Proverbs 3:5

Oct

3 ¢

THE EDGE

**SEVEN
RIVERS
KIDS!**



Journal/ QUESTIONS!

Do you think the Israelites deserved all of their second chances?

Journal/ QUESTIONS!

Do you think the Israelites deserved all of their second chances?

Do you think the Israelites deserved all of their second chances?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Where do you see Gods grace in the book of Judges?

Do you think that the Israelites sin diminished Gods love for them?

GROUP DISCUSSION

What kind of King do you think the Israelites need? Describe them.

PRAYER

1. Confess to God that you have failed to follow Him.
2. Confess to God that you are grateful that He is faithful even when we are not faithful.
3. Ask God to help you to remember that your life has a purpose and to give you the strength to follow Him.

MISSION

1. Who do you know that needs prayer?
2. Who do you know that doesn't know Jesus?
3. Pray for them.

SUPPLICATION

Do you have any prayer requests?

Ruth 1-2

Which of you guys has seen a romantic comedy? Movies with lots of love and kisses, smooches. Movies where a guy falls in love with a girl and they run away to live together living happily ever after. Sound nice right? (Some of you may think it sounds gross) Well the story of Ruth has been told to many of us as a classic love story between Ruth and a guy named Boaz. Yes it does have love, but the story of Ruth is a much deeper story than that. Ruth sets the stage for kings and shows us the providence of God in pain and sorrow. It also shows God's power even though he isn't mentioned much in the story. This is a story of Love, kindness, and redemption.

Sad backstory

Ok so let's start reading

Ruth 1: 1-22?

1 In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. **2** The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. **3** But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. **4** These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, **5** and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Our story starts in ancient Israel. A woman named Naomi lost her husband and her two sons. In ancient Israel this is a death sentence for a woman. She had no financial support and she needed family. She had two daughters-in-law named Ruth and Orpah. Both of these women had lost their husbands and were in a similar situation, but they were both young enough to marry and start new families. What's going to happen?

Ruth's Loyalty to Naomi **6** Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. **7** So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. **8** But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you

have dealt with the dead and with me. **9** The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. **10** And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." **11** But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? **12** Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, **13** would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." **14** Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. **15** And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." **16** But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. **17** Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." **18** And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

Wow, well that was unexpected, Ruth showed amazing loyalty to her Mother-in-law and even traveled to a different country with her! She uprooted her whole life and pushed towards uncertainty. Naomi had nothing left to give her and Ruth stayed loyal to her. This is incredible. Ruth and Naomi travel back to the town of Bethlehem and Naomi is recognized by some of the women there. Naomi says that they should "call her Mara because the Lord has dealt bitterly with me".

This is a sad way to start a love story, but the best ones always get better with time. Naomi and Ruth are together, both of them have lost their husbands which unfortunately has cost them alot. You see in ancient times women had to rely on their husbands for financial security. They needed family. So what are they going to do?

Ruth 2: 1-13

Ruth Meets Boaz

2 Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. **2** And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." **3** So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. **4** And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they answered, "The LORD bless you." **5** Then Boaz said to his young man

who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" **6** And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. **7** She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest." **8** Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. **9** Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn." **10** Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" **11** But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. **12** The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" **13** Then she said, "I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants."

Well well well, this is the section where Ruth meets Boaz. To paint a small picture of what is going on. Have you guys seen the Hallmark movies where a woman moves to a small town and just so happens to meet a handsome man who is like sneakily wealthy? That's similar to what is going on, but it has an extra layer of intrigue. In ancient Israel there was a law that women or widows were allowed to gather grain in certain parts of a field to be able to provide for themselves. But the field that Ruth happened to be gleaning in was owned by a man named Boaz. Boaz is related to Naomi! How cool is that! We can see God's handiwork in this story. Another thing is that Ruth's kindness has been heard by Boaz and the people so he gives her the same privileges as any other Israelite woman, even though she is a foreigner.

This section of Ruth shows a story of love, loyalty and kindness. The story started with pain and suffering. We hear about a woman named Naomi and some of her family falling sick and dying. We see one of her daughters leave, but more importantly, we see one stay. Ruth shows Naomi kindness and loyalty that is incredible! She stays with her and says she will not leave her. Ruth declares "Your God will be my God and your people my people". When they reach Bethlehem Ruth goes to a field to gather grain and finds a man named Boaz. In verse 20 we see Naomi mention something very important. Boaz is Ruth and Naomi's kinsman redeemer. This is very important to the story and we will talk about it more next week.

Kids!

Naomi started this story sad and alone. Now she has gained a daughter. She renamed herself Mara (she gave up hope), but now she is finding hope. There is a kinsman redeemer who can save both her and Ruth. See that's the beauty in the story of Ruth we sometimes miss. God is making things new. Bringing hope to people who had no hope. God is orchestrating something beautiful in this story through these two women. Ruth also had nothing. Now she found favor in the eyes of Boaz even though she is an outsider. To skip ahead a bit Ruth and Boaz married and generations later Ruth is the great Grandmother of king David. And guess who else is descended from Ruth? The king himself, Jesus. You see in the story of Ruth, God is setting the groundworks for kings and the greatest king ever. God again uses people no one would think of (Ruth a foreigner) and creates a place for all that turn to him and believe. So again Ruth is not just a ancient love story. It's a story of a big God whose plans are in motion to show humanity how much he loves them. A future invitation and future declaration of a coming king.

Journal questions

When have you given up something for someone you love?

What is the hardest thing you had to do with someone you love?

Discussion questions

Do you think Ruth made the right choice by staying with Naomi?

How can you see God in the story?

How do you feel when you don't have hope? (like Naomi)

Seven
Rivers
Kids!

TRUTH

- Context

Locate the text on the Redemptive Historical Timeline (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Glorification). Ruth 1-3 is after the fall and before redemption in Christ.

Locate the text in human history

Who is the author? Unknown (potentially written during Davids reign as king)

Who is the author writing to? Israel (the people of God)

When was this text written? Unknown (potentially during Davids reign)

What was going on historically at the time of writing? Shang dynasty in China, Iron age begins in 1200 b.c, Trojan war begins in 1190, Hittite Empire collapses 1200, King Tut ruling in Egypt, Rameses the first and second rule. Merneptah Stele (first account of a Israelite military victory outside of the Bible)

What is the literary genre? It is a historical account of Israel written from a theological perspective. The overall format is narrative.

What is the main theme?

Ruth shows how Gods people can experience his sovereignty, wisdom and covenant kindness. These often come in hard circumstances and are expressed through the kindness of others.

What key words need to be defined?

Threshing floor

Gleaning

Widow

Lineage

Kinsman redeemer

- Scripture:

Ruth 1:1-5 (Naomi's family dies)

Ruth 1:6-22 (Naomi returns to bethlehem with Ruth)

Seven
Rivers
Kids!

Ruth 2:1-23 (Ruth gleanes in Boaz field).

- **Summary of Reading:**

The story of Ruth is a beautiful story of kindness and redemption. It is a story that shows us that people are touched by God and his providence without him being mentioned.

What is God doing?

God is redeeming multiple families

God is preparing family of the future king of Israel

God is providing for the Israelites

God has compassion for the Israelites

What do we learn about God?

God keeps His promises.

God is faithful even when we are not.

God comforts His people.

God has a mission for the world.

God blesses Israel to bless the nations.

God is a protector

- **WCF**

EQUIPPING

- **Sin/Fallenness**

Where do we see sin pain, conflict and suffering?

Death of Naomis family

Lack of resources

famine

Mixing with people God said not to

Not following Gods covenant

- **Grace**

Where do we see grace and redemption?

Naomi recieving a family again

Ruth becoming part of the people of Israel

Promise of a coming king

- **The Big Idea/Truth**

What is the Big Idea that the author intended for the original audience?

Why is this important?

What does it mean about God?

What does it mean about us?

Overall: God's providence on display. Bringing people what they need, Israel a coming king and Naomi/ Ruth is a family.

This week:

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Repentance
What sin must you confess?
- Believe
What truth must you believe?
- Fight
Where do you need help?
How can God help you?

MISSION

- Who are you praying for?
- What do they need?

SUPPLICATION

Seven Rivers Kids!