

2015 Fellowships Joint Bible Study (11/2015)

Student's Version

Guidelines

1. **Spread out the work over several days.** Allow time for the things God is teaching you to sink in.
2. **Pray each time before you start.** Pray for a humble heart and ask God to help you to understand and apply what you have learned.
3. **Unless specified, answer the questions without consulting the Commentary or Internet.** The goal is to develop a habit to think and meditate God's Word on your own with the help of Holy Spirit.

Ruth 4:13-22

Read Ruth 4:13

Look up the following verses and find out how the social status of Ruth changes.

Ruth 2:10 -

Ruth 3:9 -

Ruth 4:13 -

What did God do for Ruth?

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How is Ruth similar to Rachel and Leah? Read Gen 29:31 and 30:17-22.

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Ruth's conception is an answer to whose prayers? Read Ruth 1:9 and 2:11

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Meditation/Reflection

Why did God bless Ruth? Read Ruth 2:11-12 and 3:10? What do we learn about God from this?

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In the past, what have you done to others that resulted in God rewarding you?

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If the previous answer is none, why?

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Read Ruth 4:14-16

The women reappear in this section (4:14). What verse in chapter 1 they first appeared?

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How did the women feel here compared to chapter 1?

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Write down what Naomi said about the Lord in 1:20-21.

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Write down what the women said about the Lord in 4:14.

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How are they different?

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•

Who is the guardian-redeemer in this section?

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Note: The term “guardian-redeemer” is not used in a technical legal sense employed earlier in the chapter. The women envision this lad providing for Naomi the “rest/security” that she had tried to procure for her daughter-in-law (1:9; 3:1). The women are not concerned about the restoration of hereditary land to the clan of Elimelech or raising up a name for Mahlon. They are interested only in the well-being of this widow. (Block)

Compare the blessing of Boaz (4:11b) with the newborn (4:14b) in term of geography?

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What would the newborn do for Naomi?

•

Ruth is better than who? Why?

•

•

Who was taking care the child at the end of the book?

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Read Ruth 4:17-22

Why do you think its says that “Naomi has a son”? What is the significance?

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Who was Obed in relationship to David?

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Read Matthew 1:1-6,16 How many women are mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah?

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Why do you think the author concluded the Book of Ruth with a genealogy?

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Meditation/Reflection

What do you think Obed would learn about God from Naomi and Ruth?

•

What do you think your kids or friends learn about God from you?

•

What do you want your kids or friends learn about God from you? What can you do to make that happen?

•

References:

Engaging God's Word: Ruth and Esther. Colorado Springs: Community bible Study, 2012.

Block, Daniel Isaac *The New American Commentary Volume 6 Judges and Ruth.* B&H Publishing Group, 1999.

Cook, David *The Wiersbe Bible Study Series: Ruth and Esther.* Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2008.

Higgs, Liz Curtis *The Girl's Still Got it.* New York: WaterBrook Multnomah, 2012

Hubbard, Robert L. *The NICOT - The Book of Ruth.* Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1988.

James, Carolyn Custis *The Gospel of Ruth: Loving God Enough to Break the Rules.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008

Rivers, Francine *Unshaken.* Wheaton: Tyndale House Rublishers, 2001

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Group Sharing Questions

(Bible study leaders: Please make sure everyone is in the Sanctuary for the wrap up by 8:30PM. Thanks!!)

“For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons...” Do you agree that Ruth is better than seven sons? Why?

For some cultures like Hebrew or Chinese, having a son is better than a daughter. For ladies: Have you had any unfair/unpleasant experience when you grew up just because you are daughters? For men: Have you experienced any preferential treatment? Please share.

As parents or grandparents or siblings, are there things you should or should not do?

There is a big contrast between Naomi's view of God in chapter 1 verses the women's in chapter 4. Did God change between chapter one and four? Why these views are so different?

Who do you think is correct? Why?

PRINCIPLE: God blesses those who are faithful and show kindness to others.

Do you know God is sovereign in your life?

Would you trust God even if you were going through very difficult situation today?