

Week Four: Discussion Questions

LEGACY OF LOVE, EXTRAORDINARY HOPE RUTH CHAPTER 3

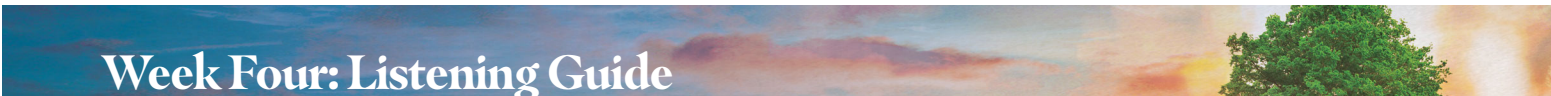


1. *What impacted you from last week's message?
2. *If someone asked you what Ruth 3 was about, what would you say?
3. *What things did Naomi ask Ruth to do in vs. 3-4, and why do you think these things mattered?
4. *If you were watching this story from God's perspective, how would you explain God's involvement in the story?
5. *Why do you think it's so important that our actions align with our words? How does that affect our relationship with the Lord? How does it affect our relationships with others?
6. *Please compare Ezekiel 16:8, where God is speaking, to vs. 9. What, in essence, is Ruth asking of Boaz?
7. *From vs. 9:
 - a. What phrases from Ruth's request of Boaz simultaneously showed boldness and submission?
 - b. Please compare this request with what we're told in Hebrews 4:16. Explain how boldness and submission can fit together.
8. *Imagine being Ruth and hearing that there could be someone else who had the right to marry her before Boaz. What thoughts would you have if you...
 - a. Trusted God's sovereignty?
 - b. Had a heart of fear?
 - c. Had a heart of pride?
9. *Looking over your answers to #4, what impact does it have on your life that the circumstances never changed, but the response changed based on the level of trust?
10. *Naomi told Ruth to "wait, my daughter, until this matter is settled."
 - a. What thoughts run through your mind when you have to wait without knowing the outcome?
 - b. How does your view of God impact the way you handle waiting?
11. *In Ruth 1, Naomi spoke of how God had dealt bitterly with her and left her empty. What do you see God using in her life to remove the bitterness? What does this tell you about the character of the Lord?

Week Four: Listening Guide

LEGACY OF GODLINESS, EXTRAORDINARY BLESSING

RUTH CHAPTER 4



Week Four: Listening Guide

LEGACY OF GODLINESS, EXTRAORDINARY BLESSING

RUTH CHAPTER 4

Week Four: Homework

LEGACY OF GODLINESS, EXTRAORDINARY BLESSING RUTH CHAPTER 4

DAY ONE

PRAY: Pray that the Lord would help you see his goodness, love, mercy, and redemption in fresh ways as you study today.

MEMORIZE: This week we will be memorizing Proverbs 31:30. Say the verse out loud a few times now, and then write it on a notecard and put the card where you can review it throughout each day this week.

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30

STUDY: Today we come to the last chapter of this beautiful redemption story. Begin by reading Ruth 4, then answer the questions to help you get an overview of the chapter.

1. Summarize the events of this chapter.

2. Take note of every word in this chapter that has to do with redeem, redeemer, and redemption. How many times does a form of this word appear in this chapter?

3. *What does the word redeem mean? How is redemption significant in this part of the story?

4. What do you think the author intended to say to his first readers through this chapter?

5. What do we learn about man's nature in this chapter?

6. *What do we learn about God's character in this chapter?

7. Are there any questions you have as you read through this chapter? Record them on the lines.

Close your study time today in prayer, thanking the Lord for one truth that impacted you today as you studied Ruth 4.

DAY TWO

PRAY: Open in prayer, asking the Lord to give you fresh insight into Ruth 4 as you study.

MEMORIZE: Repeat our memory verse for the week out loud a few times. Are there any ways that you have been caught up in the deceptiveness of charm and outward beauty? How can you allow the truth from this verse to sink into your heart today?

STUDY: Today we will look at Ruth 4: 1-10. Pay special attention to Boaz and the unnamed kinsman-redeemer. Think about the difference between these 2 characters and what you can learn from them both. First, take a look at Boaz...

1. What lessons can you learn from the way that Boaz handled this situation?

2. *Take note of verse 10. What was Boaz's purpose in acting as the kinsman-redeemer? What does this reveal about his character?

3. Are there any other character qualities that you notice about Boaz in this passage? What are they?

Now look at the unnamed relative...

4. *Why do you think this relative was willing to redeem the field yet unwilling to redeem Ruth?

5. What priorities do you think this relative had?

6. What other character qualities do you notice about this relative?

Finally, think about your own life...

7. What application for your own life can you draw from the lives of these men?

Close in prayer, asking the Lord to help you apply what you have learned from His Word today.

DAY THREE

PRAY: Begin with prayer, thanking the Lord for the way that he works “far more abundantly than all that we ask or think” (Ephesians 3:20) in your life.

MEMORIZE: Repeat your memory verse out loud a few times, saying it slowly and emphasizing different words each time. What do you need to do today to truly live in the fear of the Lord?

STUDY: Today we will focus on the blessing spoken over Boaz in Ruth 4:11-13. The words spoken by the witnesses over Boaz and Ruth were fulfilled in ways that these townspeople probably would not have been able to ask or imagine! Begin by reading these verses and then answer the questions.

1. Summarize the blessings spoken over Boaz by the witnesses.

2. Look at Genesis 29:31-35 and Genesis 30:22-24. What parallels can you draw between Leah, Rachel, and Ruth? Why would the elders and witnesses speak these blessings over Boaz and Ruth?

3. *Refer to the definitions of worthy and renown. How do these definitions add to your understanding of the blessing given by the witnesses to Boaz?

Worthy: to be strong, able, and efficient

Renown: to be given a name that is remembered, especially through the children

4. In verse 12, the witnesses bless Boaz's house by comparing it to the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah. Scan through Genesis 38. How was Perez born to Tamar?

5. What correlations can you draw to Boaz and Ruth from Tamar's situation?

6. *What did God do on behalf of Boaz and Ruth in verse 13?

7. What application can you make to your own life from what you have studied in Ruth today?

Close in prayer, thanking the Lord for the powerful way that our words bring life and blessing. Ask Him to help you use your words to bless those around you today.

DAY FOUR

PRAY: Start your study time today by thanking the Lord for the way that he restores and sustains your life, and ask Him to help you to see His provision as you study His word.

MEMORIZE: Write our verse for the week on the lines below. If there is any part that trips you up, review it out loud as needed.

STUDY: We continue through Ruth 4 today by looking closely at Ruth 4:14-17. This passage is the blessing given to Naomi by the women of the town and the culmination of God's work in Naomi's circumstances. In the beginning of the book of Ruth, Naomi was empty and hopeless, now we see Naomi full, restored, and sustained. Isn't our God amazing? As you study today, let your heart be filled with worship to your God who sustains and restores his people! Begin by reading Ruth 4:14-17.

1. When was the blessing given by the women pronounced over Naomi?

2. Who is the redeemer the women are referring to? What does his name mean?

3. In verse 15, what do you learn about this redeemer with respect to Naomi's life?

4. Now think beyond Obed to Jesus. Do you see any parallels?

5. *Even though many consider the book of Ruth to be a love story, the word "love" is actually only used one time. It's found here in verse 15. Who is love referring to and why is it significant?

6. *How do Naomi's neighbors view Ruth the Moabitess as a result of her faithful loyalty to God and Naomi?

7. What application can you make for your own life from what you have seen in your study today?

Close your study time in prayer, thanking God that he is your redeemer and restorer just as he redeemed and restored Naomi.

DAY FIVE

PRAY: Ask the Lord to help you trust His word and ways more deeply as a result of what you study today.

MEMORIZE: Quote your memory verse for the week out loud. How does this verse relate to what you are learning in the book of Ruth?

STUDY: We close our study of Ruth 4 by looking at Ruth 4:18-20. This passage allows us to see the future blessing that God would bring from the faithfulness of the people in this book. It's amazing the way that God uses our lives in his plans and purposes, as we faithfully serve and follow Him! Begin by reading Ruth 4:18-22.

1. With whom does this genealogy end in Ruth 4:22? Why is this significant?

2. Refer to Matthew 1. In this chapter we find the genealogy of Jesus Christ. The names you see in Ruth 4 can also be found in Matthew 1. Fill in the blanks to help you see some important connections.

- a. In Matthew 1:1, we find _____, the father of the faith.
- b. In Matthew 1:6, we find _____, the father of Perez, whose mother was _____.
- c. In verses 5 and 6, we see _____ and Obed, Jesse and King _____.
- d. Finally, in verse 16 we see Joseph and _____, who was the mother of _____ the Messiah.

3. *Take special note of Boaz's mother in Matthew 1:5. Who was she and why would this be significant? See Joshua 6:24-25 for reference.

4. *What can you learn about God and the way he works as you look at the genealogies of King David (Ruth 4) and Jesus Christ (Matthew 1)?

5. What is one important take away that you need to focus on from what you have studied this past week? How can you apply this truth to your life?

Close in prayer. Thank the Lord for the way that he has used faithful people in the past to further his plans and purposes in this world. Ask him to help you to follow him faithfully so that you also can be a blessing to the future generations of believers who will come after you.