

# THE HOPE OF REDEMPTION

Junior High Lesson - June 7



Start with this video on the story of Ruth

**Main Point:** God shows steadfast love by providing a Redeemer.

**Overview:** During the time of the judges, a severe famine had broken out in the land of Israel forcing a family of four—a father, mother, and their two sons—to migrate to Moab. While there, the two sons married Moabite women, but then they, and their father, died. The three remaining women—Naomi and her two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth—were left helpless and hopeless. Unable to provide for themselves in Moab, Naomi led her two Moabite daughters-in-law toward Israel, but she did not intend to take them all the way. Naomi knew the journey to Bethlehem and a new life there would be challenging. She was homeless, broke, and alone. Any woman would have a hard time making it in that culture, but being a Moabite woman living in Israel would only compound the difficulty. This is why Naomi told her two daughters-in-law to return to their families in Moab (1:6-9). Sure, the situation was dire for them there too, but it would be better than in Israel.

**Parents -** Share a time of a time when you had to move from your home to a new place. What was it like? What were the challenges? How did God provide in your new place?

*"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."*

- Ruth 1:16-17

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Orpah went. Ruth stayed. Her love for her mother-in-law was too strong. Her love was a steadfast love, and nothing— not famine, not alienation, not homelessness—would cause her to sever her relationship with Naomi. The steadfast fellowship of Ruth and Naomi was a gift from God. Ruth is a shadow of the love God has for His people. Ruth didn't bail; God doesn't bail. Ruth went with Naomi forward into difficulty; God goes forward with us into difficulty. Even as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, God is with us, comforting us, leading us, and guiding us. When life's difficulties escalate, Jesus is still there with us, drawing even closer than before (Matthew 28:20).

## Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Ruth stayed with her mother in law?
2. Why is loyalty so important in a friendship?
3. How does it feel when a friend is a friend no matter what?



**Why are friends so important when we are going through a hard time? Because they reflect God's love. God is faithful and never let's us go.**

*2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter." 3 So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek. 8 So Boaz said to Ruth, "My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. 9 Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled." 10 At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She asked him, "Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?" 11 Boaz replied, "I've been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. 12 May the Lord repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."*

## Discussion Questions

1. Boaz welcomed Ruth as a stranger? Have you ever had a time in your life when you felt like a stranger and someone welcomed you?
2. Who are the strangers in our world today and how might the COVID shutdown affect them? How come we be like Boaz to them showing God's love?

**Share your highs and lows from this past week.  
Close in pray for each other giving God thanks for your highs  
and asking God to be with you in your lows.**

## BIBLE STUDY, GAMES AND FRIENDS

Wednesdays @ 7pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9829170570>



**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU**

**Pastor Mike (818)-693-0974**

**GOOD**  **SHEPHERD**