

If you have limited time to prepare, this 3-step outline is a helpful tool for leading a small group discussion:

1. Read the text from Sunday’s message.
2. What did you find most helpful/confusing/new/ that you did not understand from the message?
3. What were your big takeaways? How will you put these into practice in your life?

Getting Started

Each week we will include a short video related to the Broken Dreams message that your group can watch together to initiate the group discussion. Here’s the video link for this week’s message on Ruth 4:1-16.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKqJsOS6dl8&list=PLbjnRsewz0Cj0xy87cjcVrYlj9OszGHXc&index=6&t=0s>

- What “business” do you need to take care of that you have been ignoring, that if you made it a priority now, it would make the next steps much easier? (Proverbs 24:27 ... Finish your outdoor work and get your fields ready; after that, build your house.)
- Who is the most famous or noteworthy person in your family tree?

Discussion

- Ask a few people summarize the story of the book of Ruth each taking one chapter at a time including this week’s passage, 4:1-16.

In the laws of Israel, God provided a plan for protecting the interests of needy members of an extended family. In Ruth’s case, it involved producing an heir for a relative who had died, her father in law, Elimelech (Deut. 25:5-10) and to redeem land that a poor person, Naomi, had sold outside the family (Lev. 25:25-28). So Ruth had a right to ask for this protection.

- An ancestor of Boaz, Perez (4:12, 18), was born from the same kinsman redeemer law (read Genesis 38). How might that have influenced Boaz’ decision to take the initiative to marry Ruth?
- Pastor Lee stated that character is *doing what we say and doing it the right way*. We can see how Boaz lived this out. Share an example from your life where you did what you said in the right way, maybe even at great cost.
- What are some specific steps we can take to develop a good reputation as men and women of noble character?
- How does Jesus Christ, like Boaz, function as a “kinsman-redeemer” for us?

Ruth had been barren in Moab for the entire period of her marriage to Mahlon (1:4–5). Now her faithful obedience was rewarded as God gave her conception. In a sense this foreshadowed the miraculous birth of the Son of God that would take place in Bethlehem when the fullness of time had come (Luke 1:26–38; 2:1–7; Galatians 4:4). The sojourn in Moab lasted at least 10 years (Ruth 1:4). By contrast, within a few short weeks of their return to Bethlehem, Naomi and Ruth had experienced blessing that was rich and full. (The Bible Knowledge Commentary)

Prayer