



**Small Group Questions**  
**“Ruth: Ruin to Redemption” | Ruth 1:19-22**  
**Week 2: February 20, 2022**

1. ICEBREAKER: Share about a time in your life when you expected something to happen one way, and it happened a completely different way.
  - a. Was the unexpected difference a positive or negative experience? Why?
  - b. *Leader Tip: Keep this question as light or as deep as the people in your group want to take it. We're wanting to lead into the idea that Naome's return to Bethlehem did not go how she or Ruth or the town people expected but God was still providentially directing their path.*
2. Re-read Ruth 1:20-21. What stands out to you most about Naome's conclusions about God's activity in her life?
  - a. Could you imagine praying/talking to/about God like this? Why or why not?
3. Steven mentioned one of the reasons we can trust the Bible's accuracy is the concept of **embarrassing testimony**, meaning how God led the human authors of the Bible to include and even highlight aspects of their own failures in following Jesus that one would certainly remove if the story was “made up.”
  - a. What other examples of embarrassing testimony come to mind from the Bible?
4. While we should always be cautious on focusing our sights too low in reading the Bible (focusing primarily on the human characters instead of focusing primarily on God), we can always learn from people who have gone before us in the faith.
  - a. What things can we glean from Naome's actions in Ruth 1 so far to **implement** in our lives?
  - b. What things can we glean from Naome's actions in Ruth 1 so far to **avoid** in our lives?
5. Read Job 23:1-17. How do Job's words compare to Naome's in Ruth 1:20-21?
  - a. How are they different?
  - b. When have you struggled with trusting God like Job and Naome? What practically helped in those times?
6. God changes lives to change lives.
  - a. How have you seen this hold true in your life?
  - b. What's one practical way that you could share a part of your life with someone else this week to keep this life change happening? How could this group practically support one another as we seek to make spiritual differences in the lives of others?

**\*\*\*As you close in prayer this week, pray *by name* for specific people in your life who do not know Jesus. Pray that *they* would be open to the Gospel and pray that *you* would seek out chances to be fishers of men in their life and start a spiritual conversation this week.\*\*\***