

RUTH



Welcome!

There is nothing more powerful than interacting with the Word of God. The Bible is given to us so we can know who God is and what He requires of us. It teaches us how to worship a holy God and instructs us in our daily lives. It is our desire to help you understand and grow in your knowledge of God and your understanding of Scripture.

We are thrilled to have you join us as we journey through the book of Ruth verse by verse. We will walk closely with Ruth and Naomi through unspeakable hardship and loss as we witness the hand of God work in the most desperate of circumstances. Ruth's story is the backdrop that puts the faithfulness and healing power of God on full display; truly He is a restorer of life.

We pray that God would use this study to speak specifically to you and your unique set of circumstances. May He restore the broken pieces of your life and give you a glorious hope for the future.

Prayer

The time we spend in prayer is a critical part of our walk with God.

Throughout this study you will notice that we always begin with a time set aside for prayer.

This helps us focus on the Lord and prepares our hearts to receive all that He has for us.

Questions?

Tel: 810-629-2444

Email:

women@rockfenton.com

www.rockfenton.com/women

RUTH



WEEK ONE

"THERE WAS A FAMINE IN THE LAND"

DAY 1

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Read Ruth 1:1-14. What difficulties are mentioned in verses 1, 3 and 5?
3. According to verse 13, what does Naomi feel about her life and about God's intentions toward her?
4. Think honestly about your own life. How does trial impact your view of God? Have there been, or are there now, circumstances in your life that have made you angry with or bitter towards God? What are the reasons you feel justify your anger or bitterness?
5. As we walk through this broken world we encounter various seasons of "famine" or loss. Difficulties impact each one of us; no one is exempt. As seasons of "famine" ravage our lives and we fail to see any fruitful harvest that could result, we are often tempted to shake our fist at God and become angry that He has allowed us to walk through such a parched land. Anger gives way to bitterness and bitterness ushers in unbelief and rebellion. The inevitable result of rebellion is ruin. But, this does not have to be our story; through Christ there is another way. What hope does Isaiah 43:19 declare?
6. Write out this week's memory verse on a notecard or a piece of paper and post it somewhere you will see it often (e.g. bathroom mirror, car, desk, kitchen sink, etc.).

Scripture Memory:

"Behold, I will do something new, Now it will spring forth; Will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert."

~Isaiah 43:19

I'm praying about:

DAY 2

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Read Job chapters one and two. What hardships did Job endure?
3. Often, as we encounter "famines" of our health, relationships, finances, etc. we waste a lot of time and energy protesting the fact that we're enduring the famine to begin with. There comes a time where we must accept the path we are on, surrender in these seasons and allow God to help us walk through even the most difficult paths we are called to traverse. Job had moments where he questioned God. We, too, wrestle with doubt and even anger or bitterness because the truth is we'd rather not walk through trial and we often think we have a better plan. We don't like the adversity God sometimes allows in our lives and we can begin to indict God's character for allowing us to experience hardship. In response to Job's complaints God spends several chapters answering him (see Job 38-41). Read Job 38:1-11, 40:6-14, and Isaiah 55:8-9. What are some of the reasons God is more qualified than we are to direct our path even if, at times, we find ourselves in a "famine?"
4. What is Job's response in Job 40:3-5 and 42:1-6 and how do these words apply to you in seasons of famine?
5. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 3

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
 2. In the midst of famine it can be hard to find the motivation to seek the Lord. Our natural tendency is to try to medicate our emotional pain with earthly things, isolate ourselves in our misery, or insulate ourselves against the truth with people who tell us what we want to hear. However, this is dangerous to your faith and will only lead you further into the wilderness. How does David describe his need for God in Psalm 63:1?
 3. In good times, and in bad, God is our only source of help and hope. What does David encourage us to do in Psalm 62:5?
 4. Read Psalm 63:1-8. As David seeks the Lord what benefit does he gain in verses 5, 7, and 8? As you walk through famine, what practical things can you do to continue to seek the Lord instead of drift away?
 5. Write out this week's memory verse below:
-

DAY 4

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. How does Job 2:10, 23:11-12, and 27:3-6 describe Job's conduct in the midst of adversity?
3. As Christians, we are called to a standard of holiness. This standard does not change in seasons of famine. Even under duress we are instructed to continue to walk in the path of righteousness for our own good. What promises are given to us as believers as we walk through difficulty in Job 10:12, Psalm 33:18-19 and Psalm 37:27-28?
4. What does Romans 8:35 and 38-39 say about times of famine (and other difficulties)?
5. While we may not see the Lord deliver us from the famine immediately, we can trust that He sees us, He loves us, and He will care for us in it. How does this knowledge help you navigate seasons of famine?
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 5

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
 2. It is impossible to know all of the reasons why God allows us to walk through famine, however, we can be assured our time in these seasons is not wasted as we submit to and obey His commands. What do Job 23:10, 1 Peter 4:12, and James 1:2-4 indicate are some reasons God allows adversity in our lives?
 3. As hard as it can be, the refining of our character is necessary to the health of our spiritual life. Though it is difficult, it is ultimately for our good. Often, on the other side of famine God will graciously grant us rest and blessing as we continue to follow Him. What does Romans 8:28 promise? Notice there are no qualifiers in this verse. "All" means "all," even the difficult seasons.
 4. What promises does God give to His people in Isaiah 41:17-20 and 42:16? How do these verses give you hope for your future as you navigate difficult times? God is a faithful father who can be trusted and who has plans to give you a good hope and a great future (Jeremiah 29:11). Do you believe this? Why or why not? If you struggle to believe this for your own life take a moment and ask God to help you trust Him more.
 5. Write out this week's memory verse below:
-