

Taylor Road Baptist Church

Family & Small Group Worship Guide

RUTH



The King Is Coming
Beginning December 3rd

Worship

3rd Week of Advent – JOY

8 *“In the same region, shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, ‘Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of GREAT JOY that will be for all the people: 11 Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped tightly in the cloth and lying in a manger.’” Luke 2:8-12, CSB*

Meditation

The shepherds hear the angel’s proclamation, and indeed are filled with both awe and joy. They are mere shepherds, considered by some as the lowest of the low.

But the angel comes to them. No one else, but to them and gives them the news of a momentous event, the birth of the Messiah. Filled with joy they careen down the hills into the town, find the stable and manger, and kneel before the Christ Child.

Joy is an emotion of exaltation that comes from a new realization, an event of blessing, a state of blessedness. And surely the shepherds feel that. But as the years progress and they tell the story to their children’s children, the sense of wonder and joy remains. An angel has spoken to them!

The angel spoke of a physical birth. But there is also a spiritual dimension – the joy that breaks upon us when we finally grasp that Jesus loves us in spite of ourselves, forgives all our sins and past failings, and takes up residence in our lives. Then the initial joy melds into an enduring joy

A Match Made in Heaven

Ruth 3:1-18

- 1) Ruth went alone at night to the threshing floor, a place where women would not be. How do you think she was feeling when she did this? What does this chapter show you about Ruth's obedience and boldness?
- 2) Reread verses 3-4. To lie down at someone's feet would be to take the position of a servant, waiting for the command of the master (something Ruth references later). Ruth also waits for Boaz to tell her what to do. She could demand his protection under the law, but instead comes in a posture of humility and servanthood. What do you learn about both Boaz's and Ruth's character from this interaction?
- 3) The only reference to God is in the blessing and promise Boaz gives. Do you see the action happening in this chapter more of an example of God working, or of people taking matters into their own hands? Why?
- 4) There are debates among scholars as to what Naomi's instructions really meant and how dishonorably things might have gone. What is important to note, however, is that regardless of the situation, Boaz and Ruth



acted honorably and in a godly way. How will remembering their example help you no matter what situation you face?

“I am Ruth, your servant,” she replied. “Take me under your wing, for you are a family redeemer.”

- 5) Ruth showed obedience, boldness, and humility in her actions, and was praised by Boaz for her virtue. What qualities of Ruth do you most see in yourself?
- 6) Boaz agreed to be the guardian-redeemer, but wanted to make sure he did it legally. Are there times you want something to happen, and work to make it happen even if that means someone else deserving is passed over? What can you learn from Boaz's example?

WORSHIP THROUGH SONG

This week, sing and worship along with this song, “Emmanuel God with Us” by Chris Tomlin.

<https://youtu.be/U9HcsERoxm8?si=W7eF4hquhHSWtdvm>