

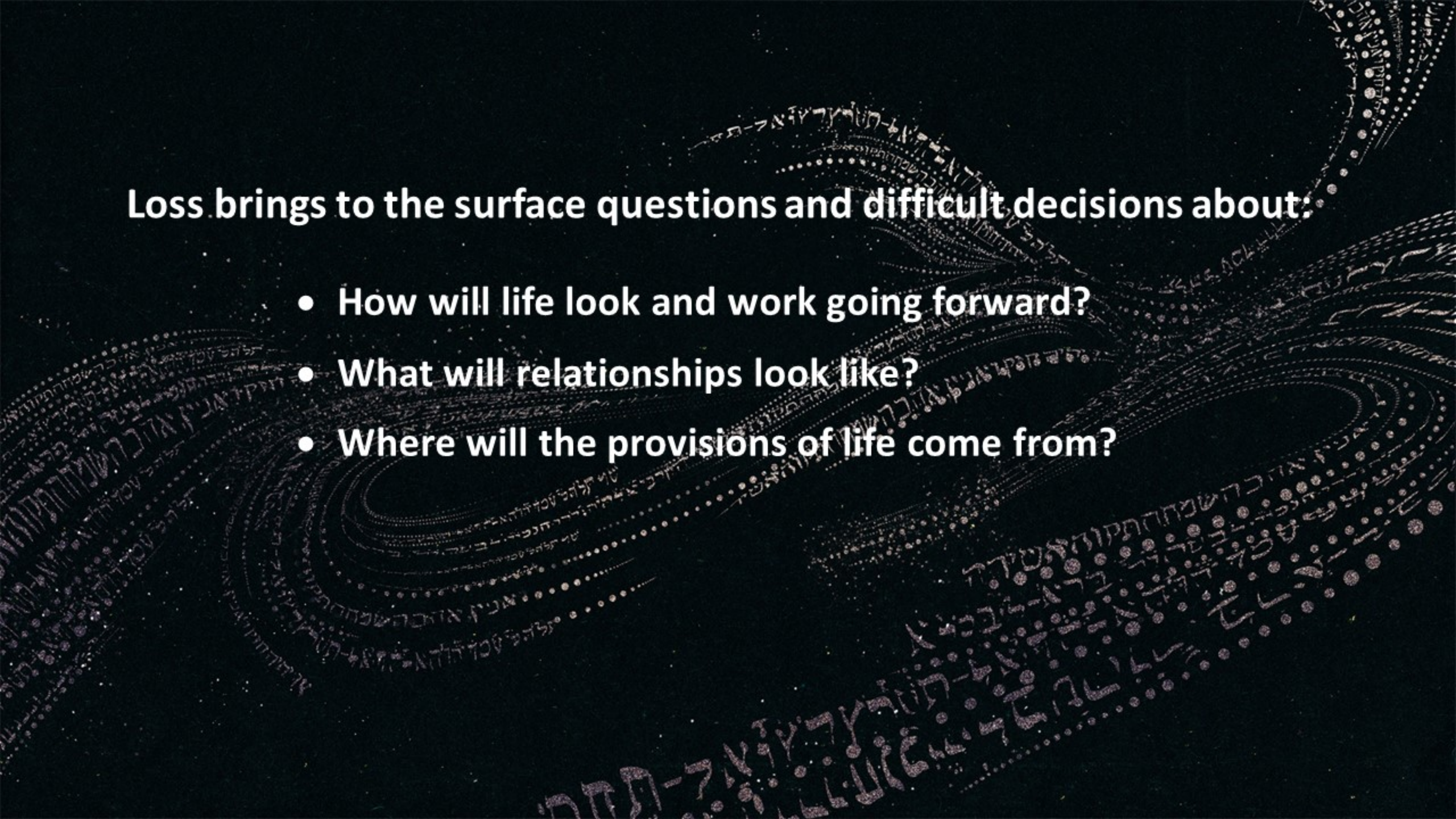
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"Coming Back Home"

Ruth 1:6-22

3 Storylines that deal with loss

- 1. The Widow's dilemma: Dealing with the realities of past pain brings difficult decisions.**



Loss brings to the surface questions and difficult decisions about:

- **How will life look and work going forward?**
- **What will relationships look like?**
- **Where will the provisions of life come from?**

3 Storylines that deal with loss

- 1. The Widow's dilemma: Dealing with the realities of past pain brings difficult decisions.**
- 2. Ruth's Choice: In difficult days you need the devotion of a true and godly friend.**

**“A friend loves at all times,
And a brother is born for adversity.” Proverbs 17:17**

**“Faithful are the wounds of a friend,
But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” Proverbs 27:6**

**“Ointment and perfume delight the heart,
And the sweetness of a man’s friend gives delight by hearty counsel.”
Proverbs 27:9**

**“A man of too many friends comes to ruin,
But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”
Proverbs 18:24 (NASB)**

3 Storylines that deal with loss

- 1. The Widow's dilemma: Dealing with the realities of past pain brings difficult decisions.**
- 2. Ruth's Choice: In difficult days you need the devotion of a true and godly friend.**
- 3. Naomi's Pain: Without coming to terms with your past pain, it can become your identity.**

2 Helpful Perspectives in your sorrow:

- Look back to see a consistent pattern of God's faithfulness through old trials, which gives confidence to any new struggle
- Look forward by making some decisions—to step forward into life