

WELCOME TO EAGLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



We are glad you have joined us today to worship. We want you to know that we have prayerfully planned this time together and that we do "church" on purpose.

Our mission is to *reach* people with the gospel message of Jesus Christ, *teach* people to become devoted disciples of His, *equip* people for acts of service, and *send* them into ministry.

As you join us today, we ask that you, also be intentional in your worship of God and purposefully focus on your relationship with Him.
God Bless you as we follow Him together.

Dr. Steven A. Crane

GROUP QUESTIONS

Opening: What one story from your life would you like to be remembered? Why?

Read Ruth 1–4 (or skim it; but it only takes 11 minutes to read it)

1. What are your first impressions of the book?
What is the setting of the book? The main characters? The plot?
Did you notice any repeated ideas or themes?
What was God's role in the story?
2. Here is how Steve described the main characters. Which one do you relate to the most right now? Why?
Naomi—Had grown bitter, but God made her better.
Orpah—Gave up and went home.
Ruth—Tried to be loyal and faithful, even in troubled times.
Boaz—Tried to do the right thing, to help others.
3. If the past year of your life was made into a movie, what would be the main themes? Main characters? Plot twists?
4. Share a time in your life when you experienced God's protection and provision.
5. How can you be a bright spot in a dark world this week?
6. What will you do to get the most out of our study of Ruth this Christmas season?

MEMORY VERSE:

Luke 1:68 ESV

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David."

HOPE: A BRIGHT SPOT in a Dark World

Ruth 1:1a

1. Background of Ruth

Who wrote Ruth?

When was it written?

Why was it written?

2. Background of Judges

Next Steps:

- I am thankful that God has been working out His plan all along.
- I will read the book of Ruth at least once this week.
- I will be intentional about attending worship this Christmas season, and inviting others to attend with me.
- I will be a bright spot in a dark world this week by _____.