

TAKE HOME SHEET



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**Series:** Redeeming Love  
**Message:** Bad Times, Bad Decisions  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** April 10/11, 2021

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The best way to follow up on the message this week is to join in and read the book of Ruth in the Bible. It is in the Old Testament (before Psalms). As you read, look for the ways people respond to their circumstances. See how their choices reflect what they truly put their faith in and how these choices impact their lives.

If you use a paper Bible, you can highlight and underline as you read, as well as take notes in the margins. Some people keep a notebook for their questions and thoughts, which works well if you are reading through an app or on-line.

Think about the sources of trouble we experience. Take some time and come up with some ways each of the following categories show up:

The broken world we live in

My poor/unwise choices

Other people's poor/unwise and careless choices

Deliberate wrong and evil

God's discipline

God's training and plan to display for His love and good purposes through His people

Ask God to help you experience these promises:

*28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 29 For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

Romans 8:28–29 (NLT)

*For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

Philippians 4:13 (NLT)

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**BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:**

NIV – New International Version

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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*<sup>1</sup> In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. <sup>2</sup> The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. Their two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there.*

Ruth 1:1–2 (NLT)

*The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.*

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NLT)

**There are a number of causes behind trouble in our lives:**

**A broken world**

**My poor choices**

**Others' poor choices**

**Deliberate wrong and evil**

**God's discipline**

**God's training and displaying for His good purposes**

*<sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."*

Genesis 50:19–20 (NIV)

**In the Book of Ruth, we will see how God is still at work in the midst of a broken world - for those who are open and humble.**

*<sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. <sup>29</sup> For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

Romans 8:28–29 (NLT)