

Discussion Questions (3 Aug 2020)

The Point: God loves you and cares for you. He [quite often] demonstrates this *through* his people.

- (1) Ruth *is* a love story, but not like we think. Have you ever read a book or watched a movie that you *thought* was one thing going in that turned out to be something else upon further examination?
- (2) In your life right now, do you feel more like a Naomi, a Ruth, or a Boaz?
- (3) The Book of Ruth takes place in the period of the judges (a bright spot on a bleak and bleary landscape, to remind us that no matter how bad things seem, God still is working faithfully through his loyal followers). How do you see God still at work around us, even as bleak and bleary as things may seem to be?
- (4) Ruth had *at least* three strikes against her in her society: she was a woman, she was a widow, she was childless, *and* she was an immigrant from a despised foreign country. Who are the “Ruths” in our society who need us to demonstrate God’s *hesed* to them? Who needs to find “shelter under the wings” of God? How can we do this?
- (5) Both Ruth and Boaz both in their own way take the initiative to do *hesed* (demonstrate loyal lovingkindness) for those around them. On a smaller scale, who needs God’s *hesed* around you and how can you demonstrate it to/for them?