

Leader Overview

The Book of Ruth

Welcome

In this study, you will get a front row seat in observing how the vulnerability, faithfulness and integrity of Naomi, Ruth and Boaz carried out God's plan for provision amidst what seemed to be a hopeless season.

Series Overview

Week 1: Jump into the first session on the Book of Ruth with a discussion on the experience and attitude of Naomi so far. Note the unwavering faithfulness shown by Ruth to Naomi. Pay close attention to how this impacts your group.

Week 2: Ruth's character revealed much about her in this story. How are other people impacted when we have Christ-like character? What does this allow God to do through us?

Week 3: Explore God's orchestration of provision. How can we start to identify God's provision in our own lives, given this new perspective?

Week 4: Determine the similarities in the character of Boaz, Ruth, and Jesus. Challenge your group to identify a characteristic of Jesus to emulate this week in their own lives.

Week 5: Witness the journey thus far of Naomi and Ruth. What can we learn about resilience in Christ from Naomi?

Week 6: Focus on recalibrating your understanding of Jesus as our redeemer this week. What did Jesus sacrifice to redeem man-kind, aside from his physical body in the crucifixion?

Week 7: Uncover the truth about the power we have, through Christ, to redeem others.

Discipleship Insights

- Life is Better Together is a Mark of Ownership at Central, and the Book of Ruth gives great example and insight into why this is important to us as followers of Jesus.
- If your group has a mix of men and women, it may be helpful to split up by gender for the "Fully Own" portion of the discussion each week. This small tweak may make a big difference for your group members and encourage them to share honestly and openly.

- **Found People Find People** is also Mark of Ownership at Central that can be found in the Book of Ruth. This reminds us of how important it is to cultivate a heart for the lost. As you lead your group through this series, pray for guidance on how to challenge your group members to better live out this Mark of Ownership. At the conclusion of your study, consider:
 - Hosting a fellowship night and challenging your LG members to each bring one person who does not yet have a relationship with Jesus.
 - Make a commitment to become people who BLESS:

Be in prayer- Constant communication with God helps us to see opportunity for personal outreach in places we may not expect.

Listen- When you are in conversation with others, do more listening than talking. Be an active listener to create better rapport and determine whether this person is a person of peace.

Eat- Have you ever noticed the way that people bond over meals? Invite a person of peace to a meal or meet for coffee. You could even involve them in an activity that doesn't include food, just look for opportunities to do something together.

Serve- Serve them, or serve with them. You never know how God may open a door through the simple question, "How can I help?"

Story- Ask them to share their story and be prepared to share your own. Remember, active listening means you are really listening to the person, not day dreaming or thinking about what you will say next. Expect God to give you insight into this person, and he likely will!