

Promised Land 1 Study and Discussion Questions
Lesson Six: Naomi's Story - Ruth

Read Ruth 1.

- 1) Which statements summarize Naomi's catastrophic state (include the verse numbers)?

- 2) In chapter 1, which of Ruth's words and actions indicate she had experienced a spiritual conversion?

- 3) Re-read Ruth 1:20-21.
 - a) Have you ever experienced a season of emptiness, right after a time of fullness? If so, briefly describe it.

 - b) What are the root causes of suffering, according to God's word?
 - Hebrews 12:5-11

 - 2 Corinthians 12:7-9a

 - Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 8:22 (the world's general condition)

 - Proverbs 1:22; Romans 6:23a; Galatians 6:7-8

 - Proverbs 11:29a; Acts 20:3; 1 Corinthians 16:9b

 - c) If you are presently in an empty season of life, what do Psalm 30:5b, Romans 8:28, 1 Corinthians 10:13 and 1 Peter 5:10 say that encourages you?

Read Ruth 2.

- 4) In what verses and phrases of Ruth 2 do you see God at work behind the scenes?

- 5) What character qualities of Ruth and Boaz does chapter 2 reveal?
- 6) Boaz was a blessing to Ruth and Ruth was a blessing to Naomi. Whom has God placed in your life that you could seek to bless? What specific steps will you take this week?

Read Ruth 3.

- 7) Summarize Naomi's plan, as described in Ruth 3. In what ways would this plan have been risky for Ruth?
- 8) What was Boaz's response to Ruth's initiative?
- 9) What "faith-risk" is God asking you to take right now?

Read Ruth 4.

- 10) Re-read Ruth 2:20, 3:9, 12-13, and 4:1. What insights into the nature of the "kinsman-redeemer" role do you gain from Ruth 4?
- 11) Examine the genealogy in Ruth 4:16-22. According to Genesis 46:12, who was Perez's father? According to the genealogy in Ruth, what was Ruth's relationship to King David?

- 12) Re-read Ruth 4:17a in consideration of Ruth 1:21. Then, read Romans 15:13. With regard to which personal circumstance does the “God of hope” want you to “overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit?”

Ruth

- 13) Consider the words in Ruth 4:13-17 with Ruth 1:5, 6, 13, 21. Who is the story of Ruth really about?
- 14) Re-read Ruth 1:1 with Judges 21:25. Recalling what you learned from the two previous lessons on Judges, what do you find surprising about the fact that the Book of Ruth is set in the period of the Judges?
- 15) How does the Book of Ruth show that God’s plan for any one person’s life has implications that extend far beyond that one life alone? Give a specific example of how this truth ought to influence your attitude toward the role(s) in life the Lord has presently given you.