

Small Group Questions:

January 17th, 2021
Pastor Ed "This Moment Matters"
Ruth 2

1. Do you see God's actively at work in the story or do you see the events that occur as merely coincidences? **If you think God is actively working, how would you describe the nature of his involvement?**
2. Previously Naomi had expressed thoughts and feelings that suggested that God was against her. She urged her daughters-in-law not to return to Bethlehem with her stating that "Things are far more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord himself has caused me to suffer." And when she returned home she instructed the women in her town: "Don't call me Nami, Instead, call me Mara, for the Almighty has made life very bitter for me. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me home empty. Why should you call me Naomi when the Lord has caused me to suffer and the Almighty has sent such tragedy?" Observe the change in her perspective in our reading for this evening. **Why do you think that her thoughts and feelings about God changed?**
3. A single woman had few ways to support herself in those days. She could beg, sell herself into slavery, become a prostitute, look for a husband among the eligible men of the village, or seek support from her nearest male relative. Or, during the months of harvest, she could glean. Consider the risks of gleaning and the alternatives facing Ruth and Naomi. What do you learn about Ruth from her work in gleaning to support both herself and her mother-in-law?
4. **What do you most admire about Boaz in this passage?**
5. **What do you think are some of the most important moments in this chapter that God wants you to apply to your life?**
6. **Why is it sometimes difficult to show grace?**
7. **Who in your life right now, most needs you to show them grace?**