



- It's Hard To Leave Moab -

Ice-Breaker:

Describe a time when you lived somewhere that never felt like home. Did you ever leave? How would you describe what “home” feels like in a city?

Discussion Questions:

Read Ruth 1:6-22

1. What does Ruth’s declaration (“*Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God*”) reveal about the theological nature of conversion and crossing cultural or religious boundaries?
2. How does Ruth embody *hesed* (vibrant, faithful, unyielding, uncompromising, undeterred, unstoppable, ferocious love of God for His people) not only toward Naomi, but implicitly toward the God of Israel in verses 16–17?
3. How does Naomi’s request to be called Mara (bitter) instead of Naomi (pleasant) reflect the danger of allowing identity to become entirely anchored to trauma and grief?
4. Why does Naomi try so actively to push her daughters-in-law away, and is her reasoning purely pragmatic self-pity or a form of sacrificial protection for their futures?
5. How does this passage lay the groundwork for the broader biblical themes of redemption, outsider inclusion, and the lineage of King David?

Application:

6. What is God showing you personally in this series that has caught your attention the most?