



- A Good, Good Father -

Ice-Breaker:

What is your earliest memory of Jesus in your story? Who was part of that memory?

What is your favorite story in Scripture, and how does it fit in the grand narrative of the Bible that reflects Creation, the Fall, Redemption, and Restoration?

Discussion Questions:

Read Ruth 4

1. In verses 1–6, Boaz meets with the closer relative at the town gate. What does this formal, public process teach us about Boaz's character and the importance of integrity in the community?
2. Verse 7 explains the ancient custom of removing a sandal to finalize a transaction. Why do you think a public, symbolic gesture like this was necessary in ancient Israelite culture? What modern equivalents do we have today?
3. Throughout the Book of Ruth, God rarely speaks directly, yet His providence is woven into every event. Looking back at the whole story culminating in Chapter 4, where do you see God's "hidden hand" working most clearly in the lives of these ordinary people?
4. The book unexpectedly ends with a genealogy tracing Perez to David (verses 18–22). Why is this specific lineage crucial to the Old Testament's overall narrative, and how does it shift the story from a simple family drama to a nation-shaping historical event?
5. The concept of the *Goel* (Kinsman-Redeemer) is central to this chapter. How does Boaz's redemption of Ruth and Naomi's estate serve as a foreshadowing or picture of Jesus Christ's redemption of humanity?

Application:

6. In verse 14, the women of the town praise God, telling Naomi that He has not left her without a redeemer. Contrast Naomi's emotional state here with Chapter 1, where she demanded to be called "Bitter" (Mara). How has her perspective on God's providence changed? In this series, how has your perspective on God's providence changed?