

## **STUDY QUESTIONS**

### **RUTH – A Story of Redemption, Pt 2**

#### ***Mysterious Grace***

1. Read 1:16-17 again. In her great statement of commitment, Ruth demonstrates a remarkable maturity and willingness to step out in faith. Given Naomi's short-sighted, but very real, bitterness, how and where would Ruth have learned enough about God to make that kind of commitment? How could she commit to a God who had allowed such tragedy in their lives?
2. Compare Ruth's faith journey with that of Abraham in Genesis 12. How do they compare? Is it fair to say that Ruth's stepping out into the unknown took even greater faith than Abraham's?
3. Why didn't Orpah share that commitment?
4. In what ways was Naomi's widowhood and age more disastrous for her than it would be for a woman today?
5. What conclusions about God had Naomi reached that are evident from her response to the women in Bethlehem in 1:20-21?
6. What do people conclude about God today when faced with personal tragedy or evil in the world?
7. There are no overt miracles recorded in Ruth, and yet God is clearly at work. List all the ways you can see in which God's grace is displayed even though Naomi and Ruth didn't see them.
8. Are there areas of your own life where you may be blind to some grace God is providing you right now? What are they?
9. Read Matthew 1, especially noting the genealogy he records. Compare it to the genealogy with which Ruth ends, and note the differences.
10. Jesus is sometimes called "the greater Ruth." Read Romans 8:31-39 and find ways in which Ruth demonstrates the truth about Jesus.
11. In what areas of your life right now is God perhaps asking you to trust Him most fully and to see His grace? List those things, and then share them with somebody as a testimony to your faith.