



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## RUTH – God’s Ultimate Provision

### GETTING STARTED

Often, we sometimes use the phrase, “God is not done with me yet”... What do we commonly mean when we say that? How does this phrase relate, particularly to Naomi?  
How do you deal with “emptiness”? (spiritual, physical, emotional)? How does God fill Naomi’s emptiness?

### QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?  
What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?  
In what way did Dave’s analogy of the rope relate to the story of Ruth?  
How can we often mistake the red tape as what is most vital and important to life? To what determines our “happiness, or what it means to “be full”, or have a “full life”?  
In what way is Christ our ultimate provider as our Redeemer?

### EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Ruth 4]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

What is the central event in this chapter? (4:1-12)  
How did Boaz adhere to Jewish tradition in his dealing with the kinsman-redeemer? (4:1-12)  
What strategy did Boaz use with the kinsman-redeemer, and what effect did it have? (4:4-7)  
Why did the kinsman-redeemer decline to buy the land? (4:6)  
What significance was there in the kinsman-redeemer’s removing his sandal? (4:7)  
Why was it important for this transaction to take place at the town gate? (4:9-10)  
How is the elders’ blessing on Boaz and Ruth’s marriage significant in light of the rest of the chapter? (4:11-12)  
What extra blessing did the Lord give to Ruth? (4:13)  
In what way could the child Obed renew Naomi’s life and sustain her in her old age? (4:15)  
Why did the women of Bethlehem say Ruth was “better . . . than seven sons” to Naomi? (4:15)  
What reputation did Ruth have in the town? (4:15)  
What does the genealogy at the end of the chapter add to the story? (4:17-22)

### QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

What character traits did Boaz and Ruth display?  
In what situation in your life do you need to display a characteristic of Boaz or Ruth?  
What character trait do you want to concentrate on developing?

How is this chapter an example of God's providence in our lives?

In what specific ways could we demonstrate thanks to the Lord for His personal involvement in our lives?

What does the story of Ruth teach you about God's view of the details in your daily life?

What does the story of Ruth teach you about God's view of the big picture in your life?

### **APPLY THE PASSAGE**

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage?

How can we pray for each other?