

# Ruth

The following questions are for group discussion. The discussion should aim to help participants think through the lesson and its application both personally and in the church.

1. The book of Ruth particularly demonstrates the invisible hand of God sovereignly working in the affairs of man. Even through covenant faithlessness, God works His faithfulness. How does book of Ruth demonstrate God's gracious providential faithfulness to His covenant promises?
2. The story of Ruth occurred in a time of apostasy, decline, warfare, violence, moral decay, sexual immorality, and lawlessness. How does the book of Ruth furnish a sharp contrast to the character and mood of Judges? Contrast each of the elements listed in the first sentence.
3. How is the providence of God highlighted in this book (1:6, 13, 21; 2:3, 4, 10, 20; 3:12; 4:6, 18-22)?
4. The book of Ruth ends with a wonderful demonstration of God's sovereign care over the details of His people's hardship. Contrast: (1:1 / 2:17), (2:11 / 4:13), (1:5 / 4:16-17). How does this demonstrate the hand of a God who cares, sustains, and provides for His people? How is this linked to a still greater grace in the closing verses of the book?
5. The kinsmen-redeemer (*goel*) must fulfill the following qualifications:
  - (a) He must be related by blood to those he redeems (Deuteronomy 25:5, 7-10)
  - (b) He must be able to pay the price of redemption (4:3)
  - (c) He must be free according to the law to redeem (3:12)
  - (d) He must be willing to redeem (3:11; 4:6)How does this portray the work of Christ?