

## **Week 16**

### **Trust His Plan**

I have good news. Even in the midst of hardship and suffering God is always at work. As we read through the story of God's chosen people, we have witnessed God continually working out his great plan of redemption. Though life is hard and struggles surround, he is not far removed from his people. In the days of the judges, Naomi and Ruth had both suffered much loss. Without a husband to provide and with a famine in the land, they were faced with an uncertain future. In his providence, God had planned for this. He was still working. What Naomi and Ruth needed was a redeemer. Their hope was in a kinsman redeemer to take Ruth as his bride. Boaz was a protector and provider. He was generous and kind. And although Ruth was a foreigner, a Moabite, Boaz welcomed and accepted her. He redeemed her. Just like Ruth, we need a redeemer to welcome us in, to care for and provide for us. Our redeemer would come to us through the line of Boaz. "Boaz fathered Obed, Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David." (Ruth 4:21,22) Jesus was of the line of David, Jesse, Obed & Boaz. In spite of loss, struggle, and famine, God made a way for our redeemer!

### **Bible Reading Plan**

Ruth 1-2; Acts 3

Ruth 3-4; Psalm 37; Acts 4

1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 120; Acts 5

1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 23; Acts 6

1 Samuel 6-8; Acts 7

### **Weekly Questions**

Every week, you'll see the same five content questions. Use them as a guide as you read the scriptures. Pray for consistency in your Bible reading.

1. Who are the main characters in this text and is there anyone you can relate to?
2. Is there anything from this text that we are to do (obey, believe, heed or follow)?
3. What do you learn about God in these chapters and how has that changed what you believe about Him?
4. What do these passages reveal about human nature, sin and our need for God?
5. What's the Good News found in this text?

### **Application Questions**

Every week, you'll see five unique application questions. Use them to help live out what you're learning in scripture. Pray for life transformation.

1. How has God used hardship or loss to point you back to him?
2. Go back and read 1 Samuel 3:1. Do you take for granted having the Word of God at your fingertips? How can you treasure God's word this week?

3. When have you charged ahead of God instead of allowing him to lead? How did that work out? How do you submit yourself to God's leadership?
4. Read Acts 4:13. Can people tell that you are a follower of Jesus? What evidence would tell people that you have spent time with Jesus?
5. When has God surprised you by His grace? When has he provided for you or others in an unexpected way? What impossible circumstance do you need to trust him with today?

### **Final Thought**

Our world is full of trials and heartache that doesn't simply evaporate if you follow Jesus. Jesus told us this world would be hard, but he also told us to take heart. He is our peace because he has overcome the world. That is good news!