



UNEXPECTED

A JOURNEY THROUGH RUTH

EVERY-DAY UNEXPECTATIONS.

God has raised people from the dead.

God gave Solomon more wisdom and riches than we can fathom.

God has ended famines and brought victory to armies.

Raise your hand if God has raised you from the dead, given you more riches than you could ever possibly count, or helped you win an actual battle.

Chances are, this is not your story. It certainly wasn't Naomi's.

In the first few verses of Ruth, we don't see victory or wealth. We see a lonely widow whose children have died and left her in a foreign land in the midst of a famine with two daughters-in-law and no wealth to speak of.

Yet God was still there, in the bad times, in the boring times, in the small everyday moments. God was still working. God had a plan. And somehow in all of this, God was still good.

IN THE BIBLE.

Ruth 1:1-5

In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. 2 The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi.

Their

two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there.

3 Then Elimelech died, and Naomi was left with her two sons. 4 The two sons married Moabite women. One married a woman named Orpah, and the other a woman named Ruth. But about ten years later, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion died. This left Naomi alone, without her two sons or her husband.

Psalm 18:30-31

God's way is perfect.

All the Lord's promises prove true.

He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.

For who is God except the Lord?

Who but our God is a solid rock?

Matthew 6:9-13

"This, then, is how you should pray:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.

QUESTIONS.

- 1.) Have you ever seen God work in a big miraculous way? What was that like?
- 2.) How do you see God work in the smaller, every-day moments of your life?
- 3.) How does the Lord's Prayer speak to how God works in the everyday?
- 4.) What are you most excited about as we walk through Ruth these next few weeks?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?