I. RUTH’S LIFE.

A. The story of Ruth is one of love, devotion and redemption set in the days of the Judges—1:1.

B. Ruth’s name means “friendship”.

C. The author of the book is unknown but could have been the prophet Samuel.

D. The outline of the book comes in five parts.

   1. Elimelech and his wife Naomi go to Moab due to a famine and his two sons marry Moabite women--1:1-5.

   2. Naomi’s husband and both sons die while in Moab.

   3. Naomi and Ruth return to Bethlehem.

   4. Ruth wins Boaz’s admiration and appeals to him as a kinsman-Redeemer.

   5. Boaz marries Ruth and they become the ancestors of King David (4:21-22) and Jesus (Matt. 1:5-6, 16).

II. RUTH’S LESSONS.

A. Lessons about Ruth.

   1. She lived a life of service.

   2. She was loyal to Naomi.--1:16-17.

   3. She was selfless in her willingness to help Naomi.

   4. She was perseverant and determined gleaning in the fields.

   5. She wasn’t too proud to work.

   6. She didn’t think Naomi or anyone else owed her anything.

   7. She was of good character as Boaz noticed--2:11-12 and 3:11b.
B. Lessons about God.

1. God uses all things to accomplish his purpose, even loss and poverty.

2. Go is with us even when we don’t sense His presence--2:19-20 and Gal. 6:9.

3. God notices people of good character reminding us that character counts--1 Sam. 16:7.