

A Visitor's Guide to the Old Testament

A Quick Discussion Guide on the Book of Ruth

1. List reasons why you might agree with this statement: Influences in our society today make it harder for a young person to live a godly life.

In view of the influence of society, how responsible are individuals for their choices... (contrast Samson and Ruth, who lived in the same dark days, but whose lives went in different directions)?

How does the LORD fit into the lives of Samson, Ruth, and all the others who lived in the Dark Ages of the Judges and made some good and some lousy choices?

2. The "ideas" of a kinsmen-redeemer and the law of the levirite are put into practice in the Book of Ruth. Now that you've seen them in practice, what was God doing with these practices? What does it tell you about God that impacts you today?

3. Write your memory passage below:

4. Life circumstances led Naomi ("pleasant") to ask to be called Mara ("bitter"). How would you evaluate Naomi's request?

Tell of circumstances in your life or the life of someone you know that might led to a similar request (call me "bitter"). What can we offer to people in such circumstances?

6. What does the Book of Ruth teach you about love and loyalty? How can you put what you have learned into practice?