

“Ruth: A Journey of Faith, Redemption, and God's Grace”

Lesson 5 - Part 2 - Broken to Blessed: Naomi’s Restoration

Fall Bible Study – Wednesday, Nov. 19 (STUDENT)

Read Ruth 4:16-17; Pgs. 45-46. It will give you context.

Life is really about perspective and how you look at something ultimately. Sometimes you have to zoom in, but there's sometimes you have to zoom out. Sometimes you can't see something because you are too close to see it!

Sometimes you can only see something if you look at it from a different perspective.

Your perspective will become either your prisoner or your passport.

And our various perspectives come from various influences, various environments, what's inside of us.

➤ **Matthew 6:22-23**

➤ **Hebrews 12:2**

I think we all will admit there have been things in our lives we could not see. We could not see them sometimes because:

1. We didn't want to see them!
2. We could not see them because we were blinded by our own perception.
3. We don't want to see them or did not want to see them because of what it would cost us!
 - “One can complain because rose bushes have thorns or rejoice because thorns have roses!” It's a matter of perspective!
 - One can see their cup of life as half empty, someone can see their cup of life as half full, some can just be grateful for the cup.

Remember what Job said about his trials:

- **Job 23:10**
- **The Refiners' Fire Story**

I. Trusting God in the hardest seasons

It is easy to be happy and holy when the season of life is favorable!

A. The hard seasons of life are what causes your heart to become hard and your mind to become dark.

- Peter found that out in the midst of a hard season of his life.
 - **Luke 22:54-62**
- Those disciples on Emmaus Road
 - **Luke 24:13-35**
- Abraham
 - **Gen. 15:1, 16:1-3**

II. God's plan is still at work, even when we can't see it.

A. As believers, we have to develop the right kind of spirit in waiting.

- **Isaiah 40:30-31**
- **Psalms 40:1-3**

B. God doesn't operate on our time or our terms.

- **John 11:1, 20-21**

C. We have to make sure that we continue to work and to serve and to be faithful while we're waiting.

III. God's redemption and restoration comes in ways we don't expect!

A. Jesus was rejected because He did not come as they expected Him.

1. They were looking for a king, not necessarily a Christ.

- **John 6:5**

➤ This was used ultimately in helping the powers that be to crucify Jesus. They wrote that on the cross.

➤ **John 19:19**

B. One has to make sure that their eyes and their hearts are open to the unexpected ways God blesses us.

C. God will use the unexpected people to also bless.

➤ Saul

• **Acts 9**

➤ Rahab

• A woman of question character

• **Joshua 2:1-8**

➤ Boaz mother

• **Matt. 1:5**

IV. God can turn our deepest sorrow into our glorious testimony.

A. The crucifixion was a great sorrow, but the resurrection was transformed into a great celebration.

B. God will take our greatest hurts, and those very hurts become the season for our greatest experience of faith and growth.

C. It may take breakdowns for a different fragrance to be sensed.

D. We would not have the Book of Revelation if John was not sent to Patmos.

E. The church at Ephesus, Philippi, Colosse, or Philemon would not have a letter from Paul unless he was in jail.