

Welcome to Week Two of REDEEMER!

- Ruth 1:16
- Ruth 1:17
- Ruth 1:18
- Ruth 1:19
- Ruth 1:20
- Ruth 1:21
- Ruth 1:22
- Ruth 2:1
- Ruth 2:2
- Ruth 2:3

Ruth 2:4

Ruth 2:6

Ruth 2:5

Ruth 2:7

Ruth 2:8

Questions for Reflection or Discussion:

1. In **Matthew 10:39** we find these words from the Lord: "Whoever loses their life for my sake will find it." Ruth willingly gave up her old life—her family and friends, her home and her homeland—not only to follow Naomi, but to a much greater extent, to follow God.

Ruth, raised among a pagan people, committed her life to the God of Israel as an adult, while Naomi grew up knowing God. In what ways might *when* and *how* we give our hearts to the Lord shape our relationship with Him? And what has your commitment to Christ required you to walk away from?

2. When we read in **Job 10:1** "I loathe my very life; therefore I will give free rein to my complaint and speak out in the bitterness of my soul," we hear an echo of Naomi's words in **Ruth 1:20**, "The Almighty has made my life very bitter.

How would you describe bitterness, either from experience or observation? What happens when we allow a seed of bitterness to grow? Does expressing our sour feelings help or harm us? What are some spiritually and emotionally healthy ways we might overcome an attitude of bitterness?

3. **Psalm 90:17** says, "May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands." That's what God did for Ruth, giving her meaningful work to do and providing for both women through Ruth's labors.

How does the work God has given you to do—paid or unpaid, in or out of your home—give your life meaning? In what ways has He used your efforts to bless others? How might **Colossians 3:23-24** impact your view of work: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."