

Growth Group Questions

Ruth Part 1: Bitter Sweet

1. Read Ruth 1. At what point(s) can you identify with the events of this story?
 - a. I have lost a loved one
 - b. I have gone through a series of painful losses
 - c. My children haven't died, but as an "empty nester" I feel like I've lost part of my identity
 - d. I have been angry about a loss
 - e. I have blamed God for a loss
 - f. I have felt unworthy of others' support or wanted to go it alone

2. Read Ruth 1:16-18. Who has been a "Ruth" to you – someone who has gone out of their way to be there for you in a time of need? What impact has that person had on you?
 - a. For whom have you been like Ruth – a faithful and supportive friend – in their time of need?

 - b. Is there someone you can think of that needs a "Ruth" right now that you can reach out to and show support?

3. Using Naomi's terms, in what ways is your life "full"? In what ways is it "empty"? Which word depicts your life now more accurately?

4. Read Romans 8:26-39. What is God saying to you through these verses in the midst of your pain?