



Ruth

Part 1: [Extra]Ordinary

Text: Ruth 1:1-5

INTRODUCTION: AVERAGE JOE

It is an incredibly ordinary story about ordinary people going about their ordinary lives. But in the background, working in the mundane and the ordinary, God is at work for his extraordinary purposes.

God takes your ordinary and makes it extraordinary.

Ruth 1:1-5

1. GOD IS AT WORK IN YOUR ORDINARY

“The pastoral calmness of Ruth contrasts vividly with the chaos and turbulence of Judges. Judges focuses on times of wars of conquest and liberation. Ruth focuses on times of peace, the kind of family events that take place during years of rest in the land.” - Victor P. Hamilton

Don't confuse greatness with significance. Ruth may not have accomplished anything “great” but there is no questioning her significance.

2. GOD IS AT WORK IN YOUR TRAGEDY

“Can one still affirm that “my God is king” when “my-God-is-king” is dead and the surviving spouse is a refugee, an alien, and a woman?” - Victor P. Hamilton

Psalm 88:11-14

Romans 8:35-37

3. GOD IS AT WORK IN YOU

God has not overlooked you.

Ruth teaches us that the everyday concerns of people are also the concerns of our loving heavenly Father.

If you let him God will transform you step by step until your ordinary becomes extraordinary.

CONCLUSION:

Discussion Questions

WARM UP

1. Do you ever feel pressure to achieve greatness or be the best? Share specific examples.

DIGGING DEEPER

2. Read Ruth 1:1-5. What can we learn about Naomi's family & the tragedy she faced. Are their anyways you relate to the people or events in this passage?
3. How is significance different from greatness? How are they the same?
4. Read Psalm 88. Have you ever felt overlooked by God? How did you make it through that time? Or are you still journeying through those feelings? If so, how do you cope?
5. Read Psalm 139. Reflect on how much God loves you and how invested in your life he is? How does that make you feel? Or, how does that change the way you live?

APPLICATION

6. How will you live differently *this week* in light of what you have learned?

PRAYER

1. Spend time praying for each other, that God would give you a revelation of his love for us.
2. Other requests
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