

Til Death Do Us Part

Ruth 1

What do we do when we face tragedy and death? Is God working through these tragedies?

Naomi was left in a foreign country with foreign daughters-in-law. Famine and death surrounded her.

Ruth and Orpah have shown hesed toward Naomi. Hesed - lasting love, loyalty and devotion.

Naomi says there is no future for them with her. Orpah decides to stay in Moab.

Ruth shows lasting love and loyalty to the Lord by the way she lived and treated people.

Naomi and Ruth go to Bethlehem. The whole town was in an uproar.

After death, loss, and tragedy it can seem impossible to imagine any future.

There is hope as Naomi and Ruth together move to Bethlehem.

BIG Idea: When tragedy and death come, be devoted to one another in love.

Memory Verse:

"But Ruth said, 'Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.' And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more. – Ruth 1:16-18 (ESV)

Further Study:

Read: Ruth 1 in your group or with at least one other person.

- 1. Have someone read it while everyone reads along.
- 2. Have someone else read it while everyone else listens.
- 3. Have someone recount the text from memory in their own words.

Discuss:

- 1. What does the passage reveal about God?
- What does the passage reveal about humanity?

Act:

1. If this passage is from God, what should change about how you live?