

LEADER NOTES

• Keep the Connection Clear

Wise marriages are built before vows are spoken. Trust grows through integrity and restraint.

• Emphasize intentional pursuit.

Ruth does not manipulate. Boaz does not exploit. Both move carefully and clearly.

• Watch for impulsive thinking.

This scene could have turned emotional. Instead, it becomes deliberate and honorable.

Redirect the group from chemistry driven decisions to wisdom-driven decisions.

• Encourage covenant language.

Boaz invokes the Lord and commits to doing what is right. Marriage begins with responsibility, not romance.

• Focus on clarity in communication.

Ruth makes a direct request. Boaz responds honestly. Hard conversations handled well build trust.

• Press toward character in private.

Integrity is revealed when no one else is watching. Character formed in hidden moments sustains marriage in public moments.

• Point to grace with truth.

They refuse shortcuts. Wisdom chooses timing and order over pressure. Strong marriages are shaped by steady faithfulness.

Review the Guidelines each time you have a new member join your group or once a month.

ASSIGN NEXT WEEK'S STORY

Deuteronomy 6:1-25

We realize this is longer than normal, use notes when retelling.

ASK FOR PRAYER REQUEST. ASK A VOLUNTEER TO CLOSE IN PRAYER.

***Share & record prayer requests. Follow up throughout the week.**

PLEASE TAKE ATTENDANCE

TARGET

Topic: Building Trust That Strengthens Marriage.

Take Away: Strong marriages are built through intentional pursuit, clear commitment, wise handling of tension, and steady character over time.

God Stories: A God Story is an undeniable encounter or experience that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

Ice Breaker Question: *What builds trust fastest in a relationship? What can damage it the quickest?*

This Week's Passage: *Ruth 3:1-13*

Share background: *During the chaotic period of the Judges, Naomi's family fled famine in Bethlehem to live in Moab. Tragedy struck when her husband and both sons died, leaving her and her Moabite daughter-in-law Ruth as destitute widows. Ruth chose loyalty over security, returning with Naomi to Bethlehem at harvest time, where Israelite law allowed poor widows to glean leftover grain in the fields. Ruth "happened" to glean in the field of Boaz, a wealthy relative of Naomi's dead husband. Naomi revealed that Boaz was their "kinsman-redeemer" — a close relative with the legal and religious obligation to marry childless widows, redeem family property, and preserve the family line. Naomi saw God's providence at work and devised a bold plan...and now the story from God's Word.*

**Tell the story. Rebuild the story.
Read the story from God's Word.**

Head Question: *What specific words and actions show that both Ruth and Boaz are thinking long term and acting with integrity rather than responding emotionally in the moment?*

Heart Question: *Where in your relationships are you tempted to rush clarity, avoid difficult conversations, or act on emotion instead of responding with patience, wisdom, and character?*

Hands Question: *What is one step you can take to strengthen trust in your marriage or future marriage through clearer communication or stronger character?*