

The Gospel According to Ruth (1 of 4)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, January 15th 2023



Sermon Series: The Gospel According to Ruth

Sermon Title: God Visits His People

Scripture Reading: Ruth 1

Sermon Focus: It's inevitable that, at some point in life, we will face suffering. We often find ourselves stuck in between our expectation of what life will be and the reality of what it is. But in the midst of suffering, there is hope and suffering is actually the crucible for love. In this message, Pastor Melissa helps to unpack the gospel according to Ruth chapter 1: God visits his people.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Ruth chapter 1 and try to put yourself in the place of Naomi, then Ruth. Can you feel their pain? What emotions are stirred in you? What gives you hope?

2. Have you ever experienced a “visitation” from God where you sensed him enter into a difficult situation? What did it look like? What was your response?
3. Melissa suggested two responses people tend to have in the midst of suffering: 1) to deny the reality and try to either run away or cover up how they’re feeling, or 2) to ignore God’s promises, which leads to cynicism and bitterness. Have you seen people respond to suffering/hardship in either of these ways? What’s a better way forward? How do we guard ourselves from falling into one of these?
4. Do you know someone who is experiencing (or are you yourself experiencing) suffering right now? What would it look like to give (or receive) *hesed* love (a my-life-for-yours, all-in commitment kind of love)? What’s the source of that love?