

The Gospel According to Ruth (3 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 29th 2023



Sermon Series: The Gospel According to Ruth

Sermon Title: God Works Through His People

Scripture Reading: Ruth 3:1-18; Psalm 18:25-27; Luke 5:1-11

Sermon Focus: If we look carefully at the book of Ruth, we can see how God is at work orchestrating events, caring for the faithful, and blessing those who bless others. How is he doing this work? He is doing it “behind the scenes” and through his people. The Lord is looking for faithful followers who will risk in faith and commit brave acts of love. In this third message of our 4-part series, Pastor David calls us to be disciples who are available to God and who willingly offer him our time, talents, and treasure.

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 3 together. What details do you find interesting about this part of the story? What speaks to you or challenges you in the story?
2. While the narrator expects us to raise our eyebrows when Ruth is on the threshing floor, Pastor David said that nothing sexual happened between Boaz and Ruth. Instead, Boaz continues to show that he is a principled man of faith and integrity. Unlike some characters in the Old Testament, Boaz does not take advantage of Ruth and her situation. What do you find challenging and/or encouraging about this part of the story? How does this speak to us today?
3. Pastor David shared a few key themes that we see in Ruth chapter 3. Where in the story do you see each of these themes? Also, how have you seen these truths in your own faith journey? Please share that with your group.
 - God is present “behind the scenes” and works through the loving kindness of his people.
 - God honors those who use their power to bless others instead of taking advantage of them.
 - God’s love calls us to take risks in order to bless others and reap the rewards of faithfulness.
 - God uses our brave acts of love to inspire others to do the same and experience his goodness.
4. Lilla Watson (*indigenous Australian visual artist, activist*) once said, “*If you have come here to help me you are wasting your time, but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.*” This truth is consistent with a Christian worldview. If our freedom is dependent upon the condition of others around us, how might this impact *the way we help* others.
5. We can see several brave acts of love within this story. According to Ruth, committing brave acts of love will result in good things for all involved. God rewards these expressions of faithfulness. How have you experienced this in the past? Also, is God calling you to take a risk and commit a brave act of love?
6. How are you using your time, talents, and treasure (stuff) to bless God’s people (at Grantham Church) and your lost neighbors? Is the Lord speaking to you about doing something new, something more, something risky for the Lord? Talk about that and pray for each other as you continue to follow Jesus in faith.