

**11am Bible Study:**  
Pastor Will Lloyd, IV, MTS

**Topic:** Bitter Seasons Reveal Our Hearts  
**Series Title:** Loyal Love  
**Chapters:** Ruth 1:6-22 **Jan. 14th, 2026**

**Central Text:** Ruth 1:16-18, NLT, ... Your People will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us! When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.

1446 - 1406 B.C.	1405 - 1400 B.C.	1380 - 1050 B.C.	1050 B.C.	1010 B.C.	1003 B.C.	970 B.C.
The Israelites wander in the wilderness	The conquest of Canaan	The time of the Judges and the events of Ruth	Saul becomes King of Israel	David begins to reign at Hebron	David reigns over all Israel	David dies and Solomon becomes King

How is God involved in the day-to-day hardships of our lives?

**Notice:**

1. All nations are welcome in God's Kingdom. No matter your background, God's door is open.
2. Faith is transferred through a relationship. Ruth's relationship with Mahlon and Naomi.
3. We must forsake everything to enter God's Kingdom. Matthew 16:24-25, Luke 14:25-27
4. Ruth embodies the Great Commandment. Matthew 22:36-40

**1. Naomi:** Realizes that God, due to the fallen world we live in, has allowed a bitter plate in her life - v.13, v.20, v.21

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**Question for Dialogue:** God was working Naomi's grief out for good, but she couldn't see it at the time. The weight of an overwhelming tragedy can also blind us to God's presence. **What are some things that helped you to keep moving and trusting God in the middle of a difficulty? What current circumstance do you need to practice this for?**

**2. Orpah:** Her faith, if she ever had it, was more in man (Husband and In-laws) than in God. She returned to her gods. – Ruth 1:14

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**Question for Dialogue:** John 15:19, "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." **Some people return to the world because they want to be loved by the world. Some who claim to have devoted full allegiance to God have really only devoted their allegiance to people in Christ or God while blessings rain down, and the first time there is a relational breakdown with people or blessings drift, they turn their back on God, because He never fully had their hearts to begin with. Do you know anyone who abandoned God, or have you ever been tempted to abandon God? If so, what reason did they give for renouncing their faith, or what was the reason you began to waver in yours?**

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**3. Ruth:** She committed her entire well-being, life, and death to God. She made a determined decision. She counted the cost and **FULLY ACCEPTED** it. – Ruth 1:16-18

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**Question for Dialogue:** What are some tactics the enemy uses to try to prevent us from making the Godly decision?