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| lo |  | Marttell SánchezAugust 1, 2021Message #1 / Ruth |
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**Hardship & Hope**

Ruth 1:1-6

**The Times and the Places**

Ruth 1:1-2

The Days When the Judges Ruled:

Judges 2:10-19; 17:6; 21:25

Famine:

Deuteronomy 28:15-18

Bethlehem = “House of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”

Moab:

Genesis 19:36-37; Numbers 22-24; Numbers 25:1-3; Deuteronomy 23:3-4

**The Double Tragedy**

Ruth 1:3-5; Exodus 34:16; Deuteronomy 7:3

**The Glimmer of Hope**

Ruth 1:6

**3 Lessons for Today**

Ruth 1:6

(1) Sometimes, we bring on our own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Luke 15:11-16; 1 Peter 3:17

(2) Be careful to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ not every trouble means God is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us.

John 9:1-3; 1 Peter 3:18

(3) Grace is always God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to his people!

Luke 15:20

**Christ Connection**

Elimelech left Bethlehem to seek a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Moab, but Jesus Christ left the glories of heaven to bring us a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on earth.

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**Hardship & Hope**

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**The Times and the Places**

Ruth 1:1-2

The Days When the Judges Ruled:

Judges 2:10-19; 17:6; 21:25

Famine:

Deuteronomy 28:15-18

Bethlehem = “House of **BREAD**”

Moab:

Genesis 19:36-37; Numbers 22-24; Numbers 25:1-3; Deuteronomy 23:3-4

**The Double Tragedy**

Ruth 1:3-5; Exodus 34:16; Deuteronomy 7:3

**The Glimmer of Hope**

Ruth 1:6

**3 Lessons for Today**

Ruth 1:6

(1) Sometimes, we bring on our own **TROUBLES**.

Luke 15:11-16; 1 Peter 3:17

(2) Be careful to **REMEMBER** not every trouble means God is **DISCIPLINING** us.

John 9:1-3; 1 Peter 3:18

(3) Grace is always God’s **FINAL WORD** to his people!

Luke 15:20

**Christ Connection**

Elimelech left Bethlehem to seek a **FALSE BLESSING** in Moab, but Jesus Christ left the glories of heaven to bring us a **TRUE BLESSING** on earth.

**For Further Study**

(Readings and Questions for Life Groups or Personal Study)

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**Getting Started**

What’s the last thing that took you away from home? (Vacation, family reunion, work trip, hospitalization, etc.) How did you feel when you arrived back home? Why?

Looking back to Ruth 1:1, what were the circumstances that led Elimelek and his family to move away from their home?

**Digging Deeper**

Read Judges 2:10-19 and Judges 17:6; 21:25. What was the general spiritual state of the Israelites “in the days when the judges ruled”? How does this further inform your understanding of the events in Ruth 1:1?

What double tragedy happened to Naomi in Ruth 1:3-5? Why would this have been such a tragic outcome for any woman in the Ancient Near East?

What glimmer of hope shines through in Ruth 1:6? Read Deuteronomy 28:1-5. How is the good news of food in Bethlehem linked to God’s favor in Old Testament times?

**Driving It Home**

Sometimes, like Elimelek and his family, we are tempted to make decisions that display disobedience and/or fear rather than faith. How do these opening verses in the book of Ruth encourage you to live in trust and faithfulness to the Lord rather than doing “as [you] see fit”? (Judges 17:6; 21:25)

Sometimes, as in the days of the judges, our lives display distance and waywardness from the Lord. How does remembering God’s grace to us in Christ encourage you to “return home” to the Lord if you’re ever drifted away? Is there a “Moab” in your life (Sinful anger, lust, greed, idolatry, lack of love toward others, etc.) that the Lord is graciously calling you to turn away from today? Pray and ask the Lord to help you.