

FAMILY SERIES: WEEK 3

family mess

FINDING HOPE IN THE MESS



There are no perfect families Family life is messy

We can find hope in the mess

Ruth 1:1-2

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

Ruth 1:3-5

Now Elimelik, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

Ruth 1:6

When Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

Ruth 1:8

Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me.

WHENTHINGS GET TOUGH – KEEP BEING KIND

Ruth 1:16-17

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."

Ruth 1:22

So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.

Ruth 2:2-3

And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favour." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter". So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.

Ruth 4:13

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

Ruth 4:17

The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed......

Ruth 4:17

The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH – LOOK FOR THE BIGGER STORY THAT GOD IS TELLING

God's writing His story through your story

"Rather than painting a picture of a perfect family, God wants to use family as a canvas for His redemptive story. He wants to use the family to show us what it means to have an authentic, everyday faith with a God who redeems and restores broken people."

Reggie Joiner - Parenting Beyond your Capacity

"What is God designed family more to make us holy, more than to make us happy?

What if God designed family both as a community of joy and as a furnace to shrink our selfishness, draw us closer to Jesus, and help us to live and love well?

Ken Shigematsu – God in my everything

There are no perfect families BUT we have a perfect Saviour

We can find hope in the mess