



Key Points :

- Our life in relationship with Jesus is a progression built on experiences. So even if the best days may be now, the best can also be yet to come. Or life is a tapestry being weaved by God into a beautiful future picture. It has ups and downs, crossroads and roundabouts, but will come good.
- Ruth is a book about ordinary folk, but with a surprising sting in the tail. Chapter 1 is about hope in hardship, loyalty and fulfilment of promises. Chapter 2 is about welcoming foreigners and forgiveness for the past. Chapter 3 is about honourable behaviour and treating people equally. And Chapter 4 reveals the main message of the story; Redemption.
- There are two redemptions – earthly, as Boaz restores Naomi's land, and heavenly, as the genealogy of Jesus the Redeemer is revealed. Ruth's words, "wherever you go I will go" are echoed by Jesus to us. John 14: 2c-3, "I am going there to prepare a place for you. I will come back and take you to be with me, so that you also may be where I am."

Questions:

Conversation Starter

1. What is the biggest hope you have for your future life?

Start Thinking & Sharing

2. Which relationships have played a major part in your life to date?
3. Which of your relationships will be most important for the future?
4. Do we find relationships with some people difficult? If so, why?
5. What is the best way of handling a difficult or harmful relationship?
6. Are there any situations in which we can act as earthly redeemers?

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

7. *Father, thank You for the way you have provided for us throughout our lives and for the relationships on which our lives have been built. Help us to develop good relationships, and help us to develop a closer relationship with you, remembering your promise to go wherever we go.*

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

7. Take time each day this week to focus on your hopes and dreams.

Remind yourself, if you are at a crossroads or roundabout in life, with a decision to made, that Jesus is right there with you. Seek His guidance.

Share what you experience with your friends, family, or Connect Group.