

## Study of Ruth

Ruth 1:19-22

### *Reflection Questions*

1. We learned during Sunday Sermon that verse 19 shows more excitement than how it is written. The whole town was “stirred” means “echoed with excitement.” Also, the question “Is this Naomi?” also lacks emphasis. The literal and emphatic translation really means, “Can this really be Naomi?” What is the big deal about this emphasis according to last week’s sermon?
  
2. As Naomi and Ruth are entering into a newly revived community than when Naomi and Elimelech left, Naomi shows deep resentment. What gives that away? (verses 20-21).
  
3. Everyone can have pains and bitterness in life. But what did Naomi say that shows that she was in spiritual poverty?
  
4. Has there been a point in your life when you were deeply resentful towards God? What was the reason? And how have you overcome that? Or did you?
  
5. The last verse closes the opening of the story of Ruth by mentioning, “And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.” Barley harvest is a time to reap what you have sown. Sometimes in life, we don’t necessarily reap what we have sown. You may have put time and effort in your career, family, business and other areas of your life but not reap anything out of it. As we learned in the last two sermons Ruth’s story occurred during the time of Judges when there was a cycle of sin, crying out, God sending a Judge, revival and gracing them with blessings. This is a time of spiritual renewal as Israel repented of their sins and received much of God’s blessings.
  - a. What sin are you personally struggling with today? Distrust in God. Control over your life. Bitterness towards others. Ungratefulness. Blaming God. Addiction. Secret Sin. Unloving your spouse. Anger. Moralism. Materialism. Other forms of idolatry.
  
  - b. What might be a stumbling block before you enter into this blessed hope of “spiritual harvest?” Do you have any?
  
  - c. Are you willing to look back and leave your bitterness behind and look forward to entering in to Bethlehem where you can find abundance of God’s blessing?