

NEXT LEVEL BIBLE STUDY -LEADER'S GUIDE-

NLBS: The Deductive Approach

A deductive Bible study...

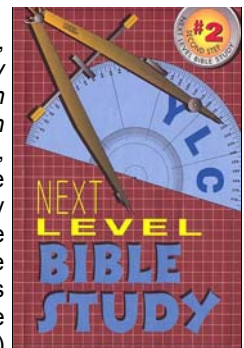
...is the process by which students identify and discover concrete answers (i.e., deduce) to specific and targeted questions, such as who, what, where, and when.

The YLC's **Next Level Bible Study** series is part of our Comprehensive Student Curriculum (CSC), an overall teaching plan designed to engage students in the discipline of personal Bible study incrementally. While the CSC is structured around the physical and mental developmental process of a young person, it rests on a fundamental tenant: the ability to understand the Bible for yourself is the greatest tool a young person can possess. Consequently, biblical literacy is the constant goal.

A **Next Level Bible Study** encourages students to *identify and discover answers to specific and targeted questions on their own*. Essentially, they're looking for concrete answers — mainly the who, what, where, and when — in verses and passages. Remember — you're not asking them to infer or interpret yet; you're simply prodding them to *identify* and *discover*. They may reword, but they will generally retell. As

the name suggests, *they need to simply deduce answers from the Bible passage in focus*. To aid in this, the questions are worded in such a way that students are guided towards the answers; all that is left is pinpointing the exact idea or word(s)

and recording them in the workbook. Since this phase concentrates on expanding a student's insight into Scripture, most **Next Level Bible Studies** deal with entire books or longer passages, although from a bird's eye view in some cases. Instead of starting with topics, a **Next Level Bible Study** begins with the Bible and lets the student discover the many issues addressed by God's Word.



Weekly Student Checklist::

- Did they **read** the focus passage?
- Did they **complete** the workbook lesson?
- Are they prepared to **share** from their weekly study?
- Are they **taking notes** during the session regarding other points of knowledge shared by others?

Welcome to the World of Facilitating!

Similar to leading a discussion, facilitating a **Next Level Bible Study** means you're willing to conduct a Bible study in a fluid way — not a rigid way — using your students' answers and questions as the main stimulus during the lesson. In one sense, you are actually carrying on a regular conversation with your students collectively (preferably a small group of them), weaving in the insights, Scripture, and stories that will drive home the main point of each lesson.

The primary key to leading an effective **Next Level Bible Study** is found in this simple statement: *Though you may facilitate con-*

versationally, you must prepare intentionally! And the best way to do that as a facilitator is to journey with your students through the workbook on a daily basis. If you'll see yourself as a partner and not a commander, you'll dramatically enhance your role as the facilitator. Here are some tips to help you with you new role as a **Next Level Bible Study** facilitator.

1. **Stick to firm times.** You may choose to be real loose on what goes on within the time frame, but adhere to the time frame itself. While you want to include weekly

Tips for Facilitating a Next Level Bible Study

time for chatting, reviewing, sharing, and discussing, it is equally important to avoid getting bogged down by non-essentials (i.e., anything that takes you away from your desired destination instead of closer to it). Time frames serve as road signs — they help guide you to your overall destination. Develop an overall scheme to your time together, and follow it! This includes starting on time and ending on time.

2. **Set clear expectations.** Because a Next Level Bible Study relies heavily upon the involvement and contribution of students, it is imperative all involved agree to a basic set of expectations. You'll find facilitating discussion much easier in an environment of mutual agreement than one in which there is division and tension. Consider these requirements as a good place to start:

- *Joining is voluntary.* No one has to be in the group/class. We are all here because we want to be. Settle this first!
- *Attendance is crucial.* Because sharing is a large part of the class, being here is important.
- *Participation is essential.* Whether it's sharing, reading the weekly passage, completing the workbook, or memorizing verses, taking an active part will enable the student to receive the greatest benefit.

3. **Develop “no fail” transitions.** Moving from one question/issue/learning point to the next one is difficult, and this is where most leaders drop the ball. Suggestion: Have your transitions down pat (i.e., memorized!). Some groups do well with the same transition each week; others adapt to variety. Here are some ideas from both sides of the fence:

- Take 3 minutes and read your focus passage silently. The quietness will send a message that something different is underway.
- Pass around a weekly “symbol” that signals it's time for people to share about their journey with Christ that week. When the symbol is brought forth and given to a student (a fresh loaf or piece of bread, a candle, etc.), it

signals a change/transition.

- Prepare and pass out a weekly quiz or review sheet.
 - Have a short and casual share time about what they hope to learn or have learned.
 - Pray around the circle/room in “popcorn” style, allowing members only one word prayers.
4. **Target one or two main elements and go after them.** Concentrate on these during your preparation, praying for activity and sensitivity. Forget a huge outline; be content to get across your main idea.
5. **Research the “caverns of your past” for a story** that illustrates your main element(s). At the right time, share it. Kids love stories! This takes time and deliberate thought, but always proves beneficial.
6. **Memorize one verse in advance and teach it to your group.** Share why it was meaningful to you. Scripture memory is a unique and supernatural way of preparing us for interaction and speaking, so take advantage of this idea. As the verse takes root in your brain over a period of days, it will



“Facilitating discussion is much easier in an environment of mutual agreement.”

	6th Grade	→	12th Grade
	Didactic		Deductive
			Inductive
Concentrate on:	Concrete facts		Solid insight
			Abstract principles
Teachers help:	Inform		Identify
			Infer
Students should:	Know		Discover
			Develop
Lessons should be:	Visual		Visual/Conceptual
			Conceptual
Start with:	Bible topics		Bible passages
			Bible books

sprout and grow into a fruitful tree that will drop “apples of ideas” onto you and your students as you converse about the topic/verse. Remember – they will follow your example. If you don't know it before you get there, they won't know it when they leave!

**STAY TRUE
BE FAITHFUL**



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**R
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**STAY
TRUE
BE
faithful**

**A Next Level Bible Study by
Jonathan Meyer**



**A deductive Bible Study through the
Old Testament book of Ruth**



**A Next Level Bible Study by
Jonathan Meyer**

RUTH

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This complete and reproducible workbook is also available in a viewable and printable PDF format.

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**STAY TRUE
BE FAITHFUL**

Great Love Stories . . . Great Settings!

Focus Passage

Judges 21:25, Genesis 19:30-38

Study Questions

1. What are the only two books of the Bible named after women?
2. During what time period did the story of Ruth occur? (You may need to consult a Bible dictionary, read the focus passage to find your answer or check out the dates prior to it in the O.T.)
3. As you discover the time period when the story took place, what can you find out about the spiritual tone of the people of Israel during this time? Reread your focus passage if necessary.
4. Was there revival going on or was it a spiritually weak time? (Judges 21:25)
5. What nationality was Ruth? (Ruth 1:4)
6. Where did the people of Moab come from? (Genesis 19:30-38)

7. Did the nation of Israel consider the nation of Moab their friends? (Judges 3:12-14)
 8. Does the name of Ruth occur anywhere outside of the book of Ruth? (You may want to consult a Concordance) Where?
 9. Geographically, please locate a map and . . .
 - . . . find Bethlehem.
 - . . . find Moab.
 - . . . How far apart is Bethlehem from Moab?
 10. How does the setting of the story show us that God is at work? List 2 ways.
 - 1.
 - 2.
- Great settings don't just happen; they are a work of God. As you read this love story, watch for what is going on behind the scenes. You will observe God at work in the lives of people for His own glory.*
- Consider This**
One of the greatest joys in life is when you detect God working in your life behind the scenes. In what ways is He doing that in your life now?

Hope for the Hopeless

Focus Passage

Ruth 1:1-14

Study Questions

1. The story begins with, "In the days when the judges ruled. . ." What were those days like and list basic points from previous chapters. (Scan the book of Judges for helpful hints.)
2. Take a moment to locate some of the judges from the book of Judges. Which ones were Godly?
3. Read Ruth 1:1. Who goes to live in Moab and why do they go there?
4. Before they went to Moab, is there anything significant about the town where they are from?
5. Did Elimelech and Naomi have any children? (Ruth 1:2)
6. Did Naomi's sons get married before or after her husband died? (Ruth 1:3)
7. By the end of Ruth 1:5 does Naomi have any reason to be upset, bitter or hopeless? Why?

8. According to Ruth 1:6 . . .
 - . . . Is Naomi close to her relatives?
 - . . . What does she hear is happening back home?
 - . . . Do you think this gives her some hope?
 - . . . What does she decide to do?
 9. Read what Naomi says in Ruth 1:8-9. How is Naomi a spiritual person?
 10. Why do you think Naomi told the girls to go back home? (Ruth 1:11) Hint: Do you think she might have given those instructions because she was embarrassed that her sons married foreign women?
 11. Read Ruth 1:11-13 . . .
 - . . . Does this advice make sense?
 - . . . Does it seem that Naomi is giving bad advice?
 - . . . What do you think about her relationship to God?
 - . . . Does it seem that she is somewhat backslidden?
 12. What is Naomi's view of what God is doing? (Ruth 1:13) Do our perceptions often conflict with God's view? How?

Often we become bitter or angry at a situation that is beyond our control. When this happens, put your hope in God rather than becoming frustrated about things you cannot control.
- Consider This**
Hope only leads where bitterness cannot go—to dependence on God. Is there something you need to give over to God that you cannot control?

Faith Overcomes Obstacles

Focus passage

Ruth 1:14-21

Study Questions

1. After continually urging the girls to go back home to Moab, what does Ruth 1:14 say that they did?
2. The Bible says that Ruth “clung” to Naomi. Do you think that Naomi saw this as a problem? Read Ruth 1:15 before you answer.
3. According to Ruth 1:15, how does Naomi care about Ruth’s spiritual condition?
4. Never underestimate the power of a simple decision. As you read Ruth 1:16-17 . . .
 - . . . What was Ruth’s decision?
 - . . . Why was it so powerful?
5. What obstacles did Ruth have to overcome to make the decision to return with Naomi?
6. What obstacles do you have to overcome to share your faith?

7. What do you notice about the depth of Ruth’s faith from Ruth 1:16-18?
 - . . . What did her old name mean?
 - . . . What does her new name mean?
 - . . . Why did she change it?
8. According to Ruth 1:20 Naomi decides to change her name.
 - . . . What did her old name mean?
 - . . . What does her new name mean?
 - . . . Why did she change it?
9. Where did Naomi get the name “Marah?” (Exodus 15:22)
10. Who does Naomi blame for her situation in Ruth 1:21? Whose fault is it really?

Because of Ruth’s persistence, her name is included in the lineage of Christ! Truly, faith overcomes obstacles.

Consider This

Decisions are so powerful that a lifetime can be altered by one decision. Has your life been altered by a wrong decision? A right one? Like Ruth, determine to make the right decisions regardless of the circumstances!

Behind the Scenes

Focus Passage

Ruth 1:22-2:3

Study Questions

1. Why are Ruth and Naomi back in Bethlehem?

Why isn't Orpah with them?

2. What is the spiritual condition of Naomi and Ruth as they return?
(See Ruth 1:16,17 & Ruth 1:20-21)

3. According to Ruth 1:22 . . .

. . . What is going on in Bethlehem when they arrive?

. . . Why is that important?

4. Ruth 2:1 is like a great big parenthesis. It is like saying, "Oh, by the way. . ." to the reader. Who is introduced behind the scenes in Ruth 2:1?

5. As you consult a commentary or Bible dictionary . . .

. . . What does Boaz's name mean?

. . . What does the meaning of his name tell you about him?

. . . What relation is he to Naomi?

6. Review for a moment the setting that is unfolding before you. Logically think through the new location, the new people, the new food and the new hope! Who put all those things together?

What do you think is going to happen?

7. According to Ruth 2:2, who suggests they get food?

8. Where did Ruth get the idea to pick up leftover grain? (Deuteronomy 24:19)

9. According to Ruth 2:2-3 . . .

. . . Do you see any place in those verses where Naomi gives Ruth directions as to where to go glean in the fields?

. . . Does Ruth even know where she is going?

. . . Who then guided Ruth to the fields?

10. According to Ruth 2:3 . . .

. . . Whose field did God direct Ruth to work in?

. . . Do you think God was blessing Ruth behind the scenes without her even knowing it?

. . . Why do you think He was blessing her?

11. Ruth 2:3 contains a profound phrase – "As it turned out. . ." How do things "turn out" when God guides them? How do things turn out when we try to run things?

Through Ruth's obedience and determination to make right decisions God worked and blessed her. All she did was show up!

Consider This

We don't make the opportunities, God does. Our job is to make the most of the opportunities God gives us. Can you think of an opportunity God may give you this week to do something for Him?

Instructions for the Men

Focus passage

Ruth 2:4-16

Study Questions

1. What does the name Boaz mean?

What relation is he to Naomi?

2. According to Ruth 2:4 . . .

. . . What is the spiritual tone of the greeting Boaz gives to his fellow workers?

. . . What does he say?

. . . What did his co-workers shout back to him in the same verse?

3. Is this significant compared to the spiritual climate of Israel during the time period of the Judges?

4. Would this have been a normal greeting for all the other families and their workers?

5. Notice in Ruth 2: 5 that Boaz began asking questions about Ruth. List what he found out about her in Ruth 2:6?

6. In Ruth 2: 8 what did Boaz tell Ruth after he found out about her needs?

Was he generous in providing for Ruth?

7. After Ruth worked all morning, what did Boaz do that might have caught Ruth off guard in Ruth 2:14?

8. Once Ruth finishes eating, some very important things happen! What does Boaz tell his men to do once she returns to the field?

9. What do his instructions in Ruth 2:15 tell you about Boaz's character?

10. Take a moment now to review Boaz's character as seen in questions 3,5 & 8, and describe this man briefly.

11. How did Boaz think ahead to the needs of Ruth in 2:16?

12. What one characteristic do you admire most about Boaz that you would like to model in your life?

Character is hard to build and equally hard to find. D.L. Moody said "Character is who you are when you are alone."

Consider This

Character developed early in your life will pay off for the rest of your life.

Instructions for the Ladies

Focus passage

Ruth 2:3-18

Study Questions

1. Reviewing from the previous five chapters, what obstacles has Ruth had to overcome to be living in Bethlehem and working in a grain field?

2. In Ruth 2 what do we find Ruth doing?

Why is she working?

3. According to Ruth 2:7 . . .

. . . What did the foreman say about the work ethic of Ruth?

. . . Would any of you ladies like to do what Ruth was doing?

4. After Boaz gives her a few compliments in Ruth 2:8-9, what did Ruth do after Boaz finished speaking?

Do you think her response showed humility or gratitude in Ruth's character?

5. How have you showed humility or gratitude in the past week?

6. In Ruth 2:11, Boaz answers the question that Ruth asked in 2:10. What characteristic did Boaz praise her for?

7. What does Ruth 2:12 tell you about the faith of Ruth?

Before God, what characteristics did she model?

8. When Boaz invited Ruth to a meal in Ruth 2:14, did Ruth have any food left over from her meal?

9. According to Ruth 2:18, what did Ruth do with the food?

Do you admire how frugal she was? Why?

10. Take a minute to review and list the characteristics you have seen Ruth model from questions 3, 4, 5, 7 & 8. Read Proverbs 31:10-31. How many of these characteristics do you find in that passage as well? Compare.

11. What one characteristic do you admire most about Ruth that you would like to model in your life?

*"A woman of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies."
(Proverbs 31:10)*

Consider This

Being a godly wife begins with living a godly life. A mirror reveals outward beauty, but character reveals inward beauty. Which beauty do you want more?

A Kinsman Who?

Focus Passage

Ruth 2:17-23

Study Questions

1. When Ruth came home from working in the field, according to Ruth 2:17-18 what did she bring to her mother-in-law Naomi?

Looking in a Bible dictionary, how big is an “ephah” of grain?

2. In Ruth 2:19, what was the first thing Naomi asked of Ruth when she saw her?

3. What a difference a day can make! According to Ruth 2:20, what does Naomi say to Ruth in response to where she worked?

In the first two chapters of Ruth has Naomi ever used the word “bless?”

4. In Ruth 2:20 do you think Naomi is having a change of heart? Why?

5. What two statements does Naomi make about Boaz?

6. The concept of a Kinsman-Redeemer is explained in Leviticus 25:25 and also in Deuteronomy 25:5-10. Take a moment to read both passages out loud.

7. Using a Bible commentary, what does it say from Ruth 2:20 about a Kinsman-Redeemer?

8. Now form a one sentence definition of a Kinsman-Redeemer. Write it below.

9. Using your definition of a Kinsman-Redeemer, why would Naomi be excited about Boaz being a Kinsman-Redeemer from Ruth 2:20?

10. Since Boaz was a Kinsman-Redeemer, what could he do for Ruth and Naomi that they couldn't do for themselves? Did he give them new hope?

11. How is Jesus Christ your Kinsman-Redeemer? If you have trouble answering this question, refer back to your definition and the passage.

12. In Ruth 2:22, what instructions does Naomi give to Ruth?

13. In Ruth 2:23, where does the story leave us?

14. Do you get the feeling that something incredible is about to happen? Why?

The greatest preparation for love is faithfulness. What a privilege to watch and admire Ruth as she works hard, faithfully providing for her mother-in-law. Little did she realize that her faithfulness would lead her to her provider.

Consider This

Before you can ever learn to love another, you must first learn to love God and your family.

The Match-Maker

Focus Passage

Ruth 3:1-7

Study Questions

1. As we begin chapter 3, what time of year is it? What is going on in Bethlehem?
2. In Ruth 3:1, what does Naomi suggest that she is going to do?
3. In Ruth 1:22 it said that they were arriving in town at the beginning of the barley harvest. Now in Ruth 3:2 it is nearing the end of the harvest. What does it mean when it says that Boaz will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor?

What is a threshing floor? (You might want to consult a commentary or Bible dictionary)
4. What instructions does Naomi give to Ruth in 3:3?
5. According to Ruth 3:4 Boaz is going to go to sleep on the threshing floor. Why would he do this?
6. Before going to the threshing floor, did Ruth say to Naomi, "Wait a minute, I want to look around before I get married?" Did she complain at all or say no?
7. According to Ruth 3:5, what was Ruth willing to do?

8. Do you think that going to lay at the feet of Boaz was improper morally? Why or why not? (You might want to consult a Bible commentary.)
 9. How many times from Ruth 3:1-8 are the words "His feet" used?
 10. Why do you think she had to lay at the feet of her Kinsman-Redeemer? Why not by his side or at his head? How does lying at the feet of a Kinsman-Redeemer picture our relationship of how we came to God?
 11. According to Ruth 3:6 . . .
 - . . . Do you think that Ruth would be nervous as she went to the threshing floor?
 - . . . Did she even know why she was going to the threshing floor?
 - . . . Why was she going?
 - . . . Would you be nervous? Why?
 12. In Ruth 3:8 imagine the rush Ruth must have felt! To go from Moab to the threshing floor, from foreign gods to the true God, from being widowed to married. What do you think she had racing through her mind as she uncovered his feet?

Some of the greatest rewards in life come not from making things happen but from God blessing our faithfulness. Do you find yourself in a hurry to find a boyfriend or girlfriend? Don't worry, work on preparing yourself and serving God. Let Him work out the other details.
- Consider This**
To find a life mate, who do your trust more – God or yourself?

Food and a Shawl

Focus Passage Ruth 3:8-18

Study Questions

1. At the end of the last lesson, where were Boaz and Ruth in Ruth 3:8?

What were they doing?

What time of day was it?

2. In Ruth 3:8, when Boaz discovered there was someone at his feet, in what manner did Ruth respond to him?

What fruit of the spirit did Ruth demonstrate by her response? (See Galatians 5:22-23)

3. Ruth called Boaz a Kinsman-Redeemer in Ruth 3:9. Briefly review from lesson 7 what a Kinsman-Redeemer is. In Ruth 3:10 did Boaz seem shocked at her request? Why not?

4. Even though Ruth was a foreigner, it seems that Boaz was honored that she would present herself to him as a potential bride. In Ruth 3:10 he praised her. For what did he praise her?

5. According to Ruth 3:11, what kind of reputation did Ruth have in town? What kind of reputation do you have with those people at your school, church? What would other people say is your best characteristic?

6. In Ruth 3:12 there is a slight problem. Boaz is not first in line to marry Ruth and be a Kinsman-Redeemer; There was someone else that was a closer relative to Naomi. From Ruth 3:13, what solution did Boaz offer?

7. In Ruth 3:15 we see that Ruth was wearing a shawl. What did Boaz do with the shawl?

How many pounds are six measures of barley?

Looking in a commentary, for how many weeks would six measures of food feed a family?

8. Why is it significant that Boaz gave Ruth the barley?

What does it tell you about the character of Boaz?

Do you make it a habit to give generously to others?

9. Read Ruth 3:16. Imagine Ruth coming home to Naomi sitting on the front porch waiting in eager expectation. What did Ruth tell her mother-in-law?

10. Naomi gives Ruth some instructions in Ruth 3:18 . . .

. . . What does she say about Boaz?

. . . Does Naomi approve of this marriage proposal?

. . . Who put this marriage together? How?

God will never leave you empty-handed, but fulfilled. Imagine Ruth's joy and excitement! Her faithfulness paved the way for the blessing of God. She left Moab with no provisions, but now is about to marry a life-long provider.

Consider This

A harvest of rewards later in life is best reaped by planting obedience early in life. Are you planting obedience now? Have you given your youth to Him?

Give Me Your Sandal!

Focus Passage

Ruth 4:1-10

Study Questions

1. At the beginning of Ruth 4:1-2, what did Boaz do?

2. In Ruth 4:4 you get the picture that Boaz was willing to do things the right way. Did he cut any corners? Did he take any short cuts?

Was he dishonest in any way?

3. "I will redeem it." Were you shocked when the man stated that he would redeem it? What happens if he redeems the land?

Would we have the rest of the story?

4. In Ruth 4:5 how did Boaz keep the man from purchasing the land?

Did he lie?

Did Boaz think ahead?

5. Read Ruth 4:6. What reason did the man give for not purchasing the land? Take a moment to discuss the "Endangered Estate."

(Here are some reasons the man could have "Endangered His Estate")

1. The man was too poor to maintain land, widow and new wife.
2. Feared marrying a Moabite woman.
3. With property comes the possibility of children born to Ruth. These children would be eligible to inherit some of the redeemers property.

6. What was the common method used to verify the purchase of land according to Ruth 4:7?

Was this method binding?

7. Notice in Ruth 4:9-10 what Boaz says to the people. In the list of people that Boaz names, whose name is missing from Naomi's family?

Why do you think that is?

8. In this section Boaz is the Kinsman-Redeemer. Take a moment to review what a Kinsman-Redeemer is. How is Boaz a beautiful illustration of Jesus Christ our Kinsman-Redeemer?

9. When you want something really bad, have you ever been tempted to lie or steal to get it?

Even though it seemed that the man first in line was going to redeem the land, Boaz did not lie or deceive him. He told him the truth. Share a story from your past when the truth was told even though it was hard.

Consider This

If you have to lie or steal to get something, it cheapens the value of what you were trying to get. Have you been totally honest with others lately? Don't cheapen your relationships by lying, it will only hinder not help.

Marriage at Last!

Focus Passage

Ruth 4:11-22

Study questions

1. At the beginning of chapter 4 did Boaz have any obstacles to marrying Ruth?

Were those overcome? How?

2. In Ruth 4:11 the elders of the town make an interesting statement about Ruth. Why did they compare Ruth to Rachel and Leah? You might want to use a Bible commentary to find the answer.

3. In Ruth 4:11 they talked about Ruth being famous. Do you think they knew that their own words would be prophetic?

4. Is it ever okay to be married without the approval of your parents?

5. According to Ruth 4:13, who is the giver of life?

6. What did the local women say to Naomi at the birth of a son according to Ruth 4:14?

What is the significance of Ruth having a son?

Contrast the attitude of Naomi in Ruth 4:14 -15 with the attitude in Ruth 1:12-13. What made the difference in her attitude?

7. How many years was it between the end of Ruth's first marriage and the birth of her first son?

8. According to Ruth 1:5 did Ruth have any children from her first husband?

9. According to Ruth 4:16 . . .

. . . What relation is Obed to Ruth?

. . . What relationship is Jesse to Ruth?

. . . What relationship was King David to Ruth?

10. In Ruth 4:17- 21 we see that God included Ruth in the lineage of Christ. Is that important?

The romance of redemption has come to an end. The price has been paid, the redeemer has sacrificed! The greater the cost of love, the deeper the price to be paid. Jesus Christ paid the ultimate price of love for you and me.

Consider This

We will never be ashamed of the things that cost us the most. Christ will never be ashamed of us because of the price that He paid. Are you ever ashamed of Him?

Putting it All Together!

Focus Passage

Ruth 1-4

Study questions

1. At the beginning of the book we see three funerals and three widows weeping. At the end of Ruth 4:13-16 what do we see?

2. In Ruth 1:11-13 whose life is falling apart?

By Ruth 4:16 what do we see of her life?

Is your life falling apart right now? What difficulties are you having?

Or, is your life a life of blessing right now? If so, please share.

3. During the course of the book how did the relationship between Boaz and Ruth change? Take it chapter by chapter.

4. Over the course of the book how was Ruth a blessing to Naomi?

How are you a blessing to your family right now?

5. Character was mentioned a lot in this study. In your opinion, how important was personal character to this story?

How would you rate your character on a scale from 1 to 10? (1 being no character 10 being Godly in every way) Explain.

6. The book of Ruth is really the story of salvation in action. How did Boaz save Ruth and Naomi? (Refer to the word Kinsman-Redeemer)

How does Christ save us?

7. What a beautiful love story! Who puts broken lives back together again?

Who created the setting?

Who brought Boaz and Ruth together in Ruth 2:3?

8. What have you learned about relationships and marriage? Are there any patterns to follow from the book of Ruth regarding obedience and blessing?

9. According to Ruth 2:6 & 3:11, Ruth was a hard worker and a woman of noble character. Ladies, do you want to be like Ruth? In what ways?

10. According to Ruth 2:4,15,16 & 3:15, Boaz was a spiritual leader and provider. Guys, do you want to be like Boaz? How? Why?

Only God can create the perfect love story. His stories are built on obedience, faithfulness and blessing. Are you part of that story today?

Consider This: The greatest decision we will ever make in life is not who we will marry but who we will serve. Have you chosen a life of obedience and blessing from God or a life of personal pursuits and personal gain? Whatever you chose, remember that God honored Ruth's faithfulness and He will honor yours as well.