

# AMAZING STORIES

## Losing Everything (Ruth)

Sunday, June 4, 2023

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### 1. Hardship and loss for Naomi's family

- Famine
- Relocate to Moab
- All of the men in the family die

<sup>1</sup> In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. <sup>2</sup> The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. Their two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there. <sup>3</sup> Then Elimelech died, and Naomi was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> The two sons married Moabite women. One married a woman named Orpah, and the other a woman named Ruth. But about ten years later, <sup>5</sup> both Mahlon and Kilion died. This left Naomi alone, without her two sons or her husband.

Ruth 1:1-5 NLT

### 2. Fresh hope and new beginnings

- Going back to their homeland
- New family
- Ruth in the lineage of David and Jesus

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. <sup>17</sup> Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!"

Ruth 1:16-17 NLT

<sup>11</sup> ... "But I also know about everything you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband. I have heard how you left your father and mother and your own land to live here among complete strangers. <sup>12</sup> May the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge, reward you fully for what you have done."

Ruth 2:11-12 NLT

<sup>9</sup> Then Boaz said to the elders and to the crowd standing around, "You are witnesses that today I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion, and Mahlon.

<sup>10</sup> And with the land I have acquired Ruth, the Moabite widow of Mahlon, to be my wife...

Ruth 4:9-10 NLT

### Next Steps:

- Release my bitterness and sorrow to God, trusting that he will bring blessing to my life
- Commit to loving the people in my life, especially when I am going through hardships
- Commit to reaching out to those who are suffering: \_\_\_\_\_
- Read the book of Ruth this week
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