



May 2, 2021 | Steve Lougheed

Ruth 1:1–7 ***“From Bad to Worse: A New Perspective When Things Aren’t Working Out”***

How do we deal with circumstances that are not what we had planned or hoped for? The story of Ruth is a story of hope and promise but it begins with a man and his family who have fallen on hard times. Is it over before it begins? In this sermon, I want to consider how we fit into the larger purpose and story of God especially in times when things seem like they’ve gone off the tracks and appear hopeless. God can leverage the darkness, pain, and doubt we experience in such a way that it moves us forward toward his peace and meaningful participation in his purposes.

May 9, 2021 | Steve Lougheed

Ruth 1:8–22 ***Finding God’s Love Where It Hurts the Most***

Tragedy and pain have the tendency of reshaping a person’s outlook: on life, on themselves, and on God. In this sermon I want to look at how Naomi, Orpah and Ruth each processed the pain of losing a husband and their uncertainty of what the future would hold in store for them.

May 16, 2021 | Marc McAlister

Ruth 2:1–23 ***“His Kingdom Come”***

Let’s notice how Boaz uses his power and influence in a God honouring way. It’s all for the good of others. The takeaway for us in this idea is that we all have a kingdom—a space where we have influence. God asks us to do His Kingdom work through our kingdom work—as opposed to simply building and nurturing our kingdom for ourselves. Imagine what the world would look like if the church lived out Boaz’s (and Jesus’s) perspective.

May 23, 2021 | Dennis Camplin

Ruth 3:1 ***“Grandma Buchanan’s Testimony”***

What is it that steers the rudder in the day-to-day events of life? In the story of Ruth, was it good luck, good management, good advice, or some other underlying influence that moved her to good outcomes at the end of the story? And, what is it that we need as we maneuver our way through the uncertainties that we face? In the little church where I grew up, Grandma Buchanan would often repeat a line, during our frequent ‘testimony meetings,’ that I think answers the questions above!

May 30, 2021 | Joel Russell–MacLean

Ruth 4:1–22 ***“Human Virtue and God’s Hidden Agency”***

God does not speak audibly within this story. No angels appear. There are no miracles. Only twice are we told that God acts. God’s “hidden causality” is the experience of many if not most believers. Ruth and Boaz are examples of choosing to do what is right at a personal cost while trusting that God is at work even though God remains unseen and unheard. As Eugene Peterson observes, as we live in this way, we find that “the providence of God appears under the forms of ordinary personal encounters.”