

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*

Worship Guide for December 18, 2022

Sermon Notes

From Empty to Full, From Bitter to Blessed

Ruth 4

This week, I read an article entitled *Welcome to 2030: Three visions of what the world could look like in ten years*. In making some predictions about what could happen in our world, factors such as pandemics, vaccines, science, technology, environment, economic developments, global strategies, and domestic issues are considered by the authors. In summary, things could get crazy (or crazier).

The story of Ruth reminds us that, no matter how crazy things seem, history is not a disjointed conglomeration of events and out-of-control circumstances. God has “a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth” (Ephesians 1:10). History is moving toward a new heaven and new earth with Jesus, “the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star”, seated on the throne.

Ruth begins with famine, brokenness, grief, and emptiness. It ends with plenty, restoration, joy, and fullness. It begins with a man who failed to live up to his name (Elimelech – ‘My God is King’) and ends with a man after God’s own heart who would be God’s promised king for Israel. From that king – David – would come the Eternal King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Redeemer Who is Willing to Pay (Ruth 4: 1-8)

The Redemptive Storyline That Will Continue (Ruth 4: 9-12)

The Reversal of Emptiness That Comes in a Baby (Ruth 4: 13-22)

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

**What does God intend for me to know?
In your journal, use the following prompts to write
some truths that stood out from this week's message.**

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| I never knew... | I was reminded... | A question I still have... |
| I was challenged... | I was convicted... | A truth I could share... |
| I was encouraged to... | | I need to dig deeper into... |

Be (Consider)

**What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?
In your journal, use the following questions to write
some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.**

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Is there a command to obey? | Am I convicted to confess any sin? |
| How am I compelled to exalt God? | Is there a sin to avoid? |
| Is there a promise to claim? | How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel? |
| Is there a principle to follow? | How can I pray for someone else? |
| Is there an example to follow? | What am I compelled to love or desire? |

Do (Yield)

**How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write
your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.**

How can we keep God and his sovereign will consistently before us as THE point of reference for our lives and for the events we encounter?

What has struck you most profoundly through this study of Ruth and why? What will stick with you?

What place should hope have in our lives day to day? How does the book of Ruth and the story it tells help you better understand hope?

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor
Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor
Jason Engle: Pastor of Students
& Discipleship
Deborah Rudd: Children's Ministry
Coordinator

Contact Us

(336) 599-1982
westwoodroxboro@gmail.com
www.westwoodfamilyorg
Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm
Mailing Address:
970 Leasburg Road
Roxboro NC 27573-5470

DECEMBER

21 CHRISTMAS CAROLING @ 6 P.M.
23 Church Office Closed
24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ 6 P.M.
25 Worship Service ONLY @ 10:30 a.m.
26 Church Office Closed
30 Church Office Closed

JANUARY

1 Worship Service ONLY @ 10:30 a.m.
2 Church Office Closed