

Water of Life Community Church  
RUTH  
AN UNBELIEVABLE ABILITY TO COMMIT  
WEEK 2  
RUTH 1:16-17, 20

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

In last week's session, we learned that Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah were experiencing the lowest of lows. Their husbands had died, and they were all alone in a culture and societal system where women without husbands struggled to survive. Yet God had plans for them; they just needed to accept the assignment.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ RUTH 1:12-18

- a. From verses 12-14, what was Naomi concerned about for her daughters-in-law? How did the daughters-in-law feel about it?
- b. Naomi said, "The Lord's hand has turned against me" (v. 13). How would you counsel, or what would you do, for someone who is feeling that way?
- c. What six vows did Ruth make to Naomi in verses 16-17?
- d. Why do you think she made so many vows? Which one stands out to you the most personally?
- e. At what point did Naomi stop trying to convince Ruth to leave her?
- f. Both Naomi and Ruth traveled to Bethlehem, but with two very different attitudes. What does this tell you about what it does and doesn't mean to accept the assignments of refinement God gives us?
- g. Although verses 16-17 are used in wedding vows today, they were initially a daughter-in-law's commitment to her mother-in-law. How do these expressions of love reflect a commitment to sacrifice?

READ RUTH 1:19-22.

- a. Describe Naomi's outlook upon her return to Bethlehem.
  - b. What are some ways we can protect ourselves from becoming bitter through difficult and seemingly unfair circumstances?
  - c. We cannot remain in bitterness if we're going to follow God. Do you believe God can bring healing to your brokenness? Do you believe that He wants to? Explain.
  - d. Why would Ruth remain committed to bitter Naomi?
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## PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

- When you are discouraged, what are some things you do to gain the courage to keep following God?
  - What are some situations in life where we might need to be brave to stick to our commitments?
  - How might God bless us when we stick to our commitments to be faithful to Him in all things?
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## GOING DEEPER/WEEKLY CHALLENGE

### REFLECT

- When was the last time you were really committed to something? What did it feel like?

### RESPOND

- Practice the discipline of commitment this week by committing to doing one act this week that honors God (i.e. prayerfully reading your Bible every day, drinking 8 glasses of water a day, etc.)

*Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "edevotional" to 67076; or go to [wolgroups.com](http://wolgroups.com) and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.*

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## MEMORY VERSE

Ruth 1:16-17, Christian Standard Bible (CSB)

Don't plead with me to abandon you or to return and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me, and do so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.

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## NOTES