



THRIVE CHURCH

GROWTH GROUP STUDY GUIDE | SERIES: GOD > STRUGGLE

TITLE: FEELING EMPTY

SCRIPTURE: RUTH 1

One Thing Follow-up

In our difficulty, we will get through it with God's help. We cannot equate our difficulty with God's absence or indifference.

We need to align our life with Jesus.

Q. Share a new way that you can align your life with Jesus.

Opening

As Christians, Scripture is our guide. This means all Scripture, not just the warm and fuzzy parts. Scripture can be hard, convicting. Everything we need to know about God and everything God has to say to Christians can be found on the pages of Scripture.

Series Review

We are starting a new series this week in the book of Ruth. This series will help us to see that God is greater than our struggles; that he is still at work in our difficulty; that God has a plan for everything. It's a book about love.

Review the Message

Ruth was written during a time when there was no king and everyone did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

Q. How do we see this in our world today?

Read Ruth 1:1-5

Q. When have you made a life change due to a "famine?"

Q. Share a time when you realized that you had walked away from God's blessing.

Q. Where have you seen God at work recently?

Read Ruth 1:16-17

Love in Scripture is rarely expressed verbally. It is always demonstrated by actions.

Q. When have you been reassured about placing your faith in Jesus?

We can be reminded that it doesn't matter where you're from or where you've been. What matters most is who you put your faith in.

Q. Share a time that you returned to God.

Read Ruth 1:18-21

Q. When have you tried to suck it up and move on? How did that work out?

Q. How can we learn to grieve better?

When we are emptied, we typically grown in one or two directions: towards God or towards bitterness.

Q. How have you misinterpreted your circumstances?

Read Ruth 1:22

Q. Share a time when you have seen God's perfect timing.

Living It Out Application

We are reminded that we may not be the best judge of our circumstances.

We must recognize the good ways God has provided in difficulty.

Realize that God may be doing something bigger than you think.

Q. What is God saying to you through this lesson?

Q. What will you do about it this coming week?

Q. How can we help you?

Prayer:

Q. Are there any specific things we need to pray about or needs to focus on?