



THRIVE CHURCH

GROWTH GROUP STUDY GUIDE | SERIES: GOD > STRUGGLE

TITLE: A GREATER STORY

SCRIPTURE: RUTH 4

One Thing Follow-up

Each of our lives is a story comprised of highs and lows. Yet, when we come to Jesus, our story is overwhelmed by his. We have hope and a future. We have come under the wings of YHWH.

Q. Do you actually believe the statement above and how does your life show this belief?

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 continuing our 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

Thanksgiving is all about realizing and celebrating God's faithfulness and goodness in our lives. That's what Ruth is all about, but like our lives, it's a complicated story. It's the story of struggle.

The one who used to have faith-Naomi

The one who is just exploring faith-Ruth

The one who has always lived by faith-Boaz

In each story, we find God is always working all things to the good of those who love him and are called according to his purpose (see Rom. 8.28). He's always leading to Jesus. He's working in all situations, doing what he does.

Read Ruth 4.1-4

Q. "Behold" is the authors way of saying "Look! God is putting this together." Have you witnessed something similar?

Q. What did Boaz fail to mention in his opening statement to the first kinsman redeemer? Was this

Read Ruth 4.5

Boaz let's the other shoe drop that Ruth, the Moabitess, would come with the land.

Q. When have you had to "hit the brakes" on something due to details?

Read Ruth 4.9-12

Boaz steps in as Kinsman Redeemer and reminds us that God is at work in the darkest times.

God blesses the world, he brings light to darkness, through the righteous acts of his people.

Q. How does this information help you to live differently today?

Q. Share a time when God brought light into your darkness.

Ruth, the Moabitess, sees her life change when she places it in God's hands (your God will be my God), her story is overwhelmed by his.

Q. Share how your story changed when you placed it in the hands of God.

Not only are we given a new identity, but God works through us in ways we barely comprehend.

Q. Share how God has worked through you in ways you didn't think were possible.

Read Ruth 4.13

Q. How have you seen righteousness play out through your life?

Read Ruth 4.14-17

Naomi's is another story of reversal. She never pauses to consider God may have been trying to teach them in the difficulty.

Q. What have you learned through difficulty in your life?



In spite of self-serving motives, in spite of what we have said about God, even in spite of our harebrained ideas, God's love, his commitment; his goodness, never fails.

Q. Share a time when even you couldn't get out of the way of yourself, God was good.

Read Ruth 4.18-22

When everything seemed dark, God had not forgotten his plan or changed his mind.

Q. How is God present in your life, even now in the darkness that might be 2020?

Living It Out Application

Like Ruth, Boaz, and Naomi, our lives are safe and purposeful in his hands.

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?