

**“WHEN LIFE IS DIFFICULT, GOD IS STILL WORKING”
(Ruth 1:1-5)**

Romans 8:28

- What is necessary to please God?
- Is a failure to trust the Lord and rest in His promises a problem among believers today?
- How can a book like Ruth relate to me today? (Romans 15:4)
- What should we know about the book of Ruth?
- How can a book about a woman in the OT relate to you today?

I. RUTH DECIDING ... to remain with Naomi..... [WEEPING]... (1)

A. Elimelech's Decision To Go To _____ and Its _____ (1:1-5)

1. The setting. (1:1a)

- a. This story *begins* during the days of the _____ .
 - What is the *context* for the book of Judges?
 - What *characterized* the book of Judges and how does this relate to today?
- b. This story *occurs* during a _____ in the land of Israel.
 - What does this indicate about Israel's spiritual condition and God's discipline?
 - Does God still discipline believers in Christ today?
 - Does God still judge nations yet today?
 - Is there a famine in our land today?
 - What marked this time in Israel's history?

2. Their _____ to Moab. (1:1b-2b)

a. A Jewish family traveled from _____ to _____ prompted by a famine in the land.

- What does this indicate?
- What should you remember about locational decisions?
- What did Elimelech plan to do there?
- What should husbands/fathers take to heart from this example?

b. This Jewish family consisted of ... a dad named _____ (which means _____), a wife named _____ (which means _____ or _____), and two sons named _____ (which means _____ or _____) and _____ (which means _____ or _____).

- What lessons can you learn from this?
- 1) When difficulties come, you can either _____ as promised, or you can _____, or _____ your problems.
- What is always a daily bottom-line issue in your Christian walk?

- What do you still take with you wherever you go?

2) When difficulties & trials come, what you really _____ in life.

- In what ways does this reflect itself??

3. Their _____ in Moab. (1:2c-4)

a. They not only *entered Moab* but they _____ there for about _____.

b. They not only *remained there*, but Elimelech _____ there.

* While escaping pressure in Canaan, what did he find in Moab?

- Did he live up to his name? (God is King)

c. Elimelech not only *died there*, but his two sons _____ there.

*Who were these women?