

Discuss

Summarize the events of Ruth so far. What has changed for Ruth and Naomi since the beginning of the book? What problems remain unsolved?

Who first takes the initiative in this chapter? What is the reasoning behind Naomi's plan? According to Ruth 3:1, what does she want to ensure for Ruth? What does Naomi tell Ruth to do in Ruth 3:3–4?

How did Bianca apply each of Naomi's instructions to our lives? What do these principles mean to you? What does it look like to live them out daily?

What does it look like in your life to actively pursue God? When is it tempting to passively wait for Him to act?

What's the difference between being passive and actively waiting on God? How do Naomi's actions speak to how we could be active in our faith?

Ruth 2:12. How does Ruth's request in 3:9 parallel Boaz's prayer in Ruth 2:12?

Ruth 2:11. What is the "first kindness" Boaz mentions in 3:10? What is the second kindness?

What reason does Boaz give for doing what Ruth asked? How does he describe her character?

Why can't Boaz redeem Ruth? What stands in his way? As Bianca mentioned, how does Boaz's attention to the law speak to his character?

How does Boaz continue to protect Ruth's dignity at the end of the chapter? How does he continue to bless her?

After Ruth debriefs with Naomi, what are Naomi's instructions to Ruth in Ruth 3:18? Why do you think Naomi tells Ruth to wait, unlike at the beginning of the chapter? What's the difference between their situation before Ruth went to the threshing floor and after?

How have Ruth and Naomi seized opportunities so far in the story?

When have you seized the opportunities God placed before you?

When have you realized it was time for you to wait? How did you feel during that time? What did God teach you?

How do you discern if it's time for you to take step forward or if you should wait?

In what ways could you walk through open doors in your life? In what areas of your life are you waiting on God?

Live It Out

Pray: Pray for open doors this week. Ask God to show you how you can take a step of faith each day and pray for the strength to obey His guidance.

Study: Read through the story of the Exodus this week (Exod. 1–15). Look for the theme of God's redemption as you learn about how He rescued Israel from Egypt.

Reflect: Think back on the "waiting" times in your life. How did obedience play a role in that season? What did God teach you?

Encourage: Tell a woman in your life how she personifies the Proverbs 31 woman to you. Pull out specific verses that she excels at living out. Consider writing words of encouragement down so she can look back on what you've said.

Worship: Take a few minutes to praise God for being a redeemer. Find songs that hone in on God's redemption and sing them, write down your prayers of gratitude, or create a drawing to express your thanks.