

I Once Was Blind  
Ruth 1:14-22  
September 22, 2024

**Discussion Questions** - These questions are a conversation starter and a guide, not an exact script.

1. How does Orpah's choice to go back to Moab reveal her spiritual blindness? How is Orpah's decision a warning to us about superficial commitment to God?

2. How does Ruth's choice to go to Israel with Naomi reveal her spiritual sight? What was it that Ruth wanted more than anything else? What does Ruth teach us about the nature of saving faith that will go the distance?

3. What indications of blindness do we see in the women of the town as they see both Naomi and Ruth return? Whom did they fail to acknowledge in their words?

4. Why did God allow Naomi's return to be so public? What was God planning to accomplish in the people of the town? See Ruth 4:14-15. Why does God allow us to go through trials that other people are aware of? What might He be accomplishing in their lives? Why is it hard for us to accept it when our failures and trials become well known?

5. What indications do we see of Naomi's blindness in vv. 18-21? How was she blinded to her past "fullness", her present "emptiness", and most importantly, to the character of God? How might genuine believers fall into the same blindness as they try to make sense of the trials God has called them to walk through? How can we learn to trust God even though we cannot understand what He might be accomplishing in our trials?