

Come Home  
Ruth 1:1-6  
September 8, 2024

## Discussion Questions

1. Ruth 1:1 begins with “**In the days when the judges ruled...**” In order to get a better sense of what was going on during the time period of the judges, read Judges 2:6-3:6. What characterized Israel during this period? Read Judges 21:25. What does it mean that people did “**what was right in their own eyes**”?
2. Ruth 1:1 says there was a famine in the land. Read Deuteronomy 28:15-24. What did the famine indicate about the spiritual condition of Israel?
3. Why was it sin for Elimelech to take his family to Moab? How might Elimelech have justified his decision in v. 1? Why was it wrong for Elimelech’s sons to take Moabite wives? See Deuteronomy 7:3-4, Joshua 23:12, Judges 3:6.
4. From the beginning, God’s design has been for men to lead in their homes for the blessing of the entire family. However, when men fail to be who God calls them to be, they bring great pain to their family. How do we see this in Ruth 1:1-6? How do we see this in our world today?
5. What prompted Naomi to return to Israel in Ruth 1:6? How do we see a similar motivation in the prodigal son in Luke 15:17? How does God’s kindness and mercy, more than condemnation of our sin, draw us to repentance?
6. How might we be tempted to think that God’s timing was not good and that He should have acted sooner in Naomi’s life and in ours? What might He be teaching us through trials that last longer than we want them to?