

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

5/28/17

Text: Ruth 2:17-3:13

Title: Redeemed & Living Redemptively

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

Tim continued our series in the book of Ruth as we looked at Ruth's Faithful (Hesed) Love to Naomi, and how she seeks to offer that same love to Boaz. Even when faced with the harsh circumstances of leaving her people, devoting herself to Naomi and to the LORD, and working daily in the fields to glean food for the two of them, Ruth never falters in her response of love. She is always seeking to be a blessing no matter how great her need. As Tim said, she positions herself in line with God's promises.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. Tim gave the example of a ketchup packet: what comes out when you squeeze it isn't some foreign object, it's what has always been inside. In the same way, when we are "squeezed" financially, relationally, emotionally or physically, what comes out (in anger, sadness, bitterness, resentment...etc) is what's been inside of us all along.*
 - **When was the last time you felt "squeezed"? What came out of you?**
- 2. Tim said we tend toward two extremes when we are "squeezed." We hide, keep it together and lie about our frailty; or we wallow in self pity, looking for people's attention, even trying to make them as miserable as we are. But God wants us to ask and trust in Him for all we need and ask Him and his people for help. As Saint Theresa said, "You compliment the King by asking great things of Him."*
 - **What part of your life have you been working to manage or control rather than just asking great things of God?**
 - **Do you tend to hide your brokenness, or invite others to wallow in it? How have you done that recently?**
- 3. Like the example from Downton Abbey, Boaz could have rejected Ruth because she was a Moabite, but instead he honors her, is obedient to the Lord, and takes her on as her Kinsmen Redeemer. He doesn't just give her food or provision, he takes ownership of her burdens and lovingly covers her need.*
 - **Who has God placed in your life that you know is in need?**
 - **What would it look like for you to not only provide relief for that person, but for you to take ownership of their burdens?**
 - **What burdens do you need to ask God to take ownership of?**

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A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as a group as you consider Adoring God, Confessing your sin and limitations, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to Use the Worship Folder prayer items as needed.)

1. ADORATION

What draws you to Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions?

2. CONFESSION

How has this sermon brought to mind sin that you need to Confess and Repent of or ways in which you are finite and limited?

3. THANKSGIVING

What has drawn you to thank Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)?

4. SUPPLICATION

In what particular ways do you need Holy Spirit to transform you?

Prepare for Gospel Community:

How has God impacted you the most through this sermon?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

- 1. Worship the LORD our Redeemer! Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He is a Husband to His people and that He is trustworthy to meet our needs and never abandon us.*
- 2. Facing times of need, how have you responded either by hiding or living in despair? Confess your unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and secure you by His undying covenant love.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for the beauty of His heart to do **whatever was necessary** to cover us as His bride. Thank Him for His courage to seek us when we were outsiders, to be with us and offer what others wouldn't.*
- 4. Who do you know that is crushed by their sense of need? Pray for them, asking the Lord to make Himself known to them, and also, where possible, to use you to help meet needs that you can address.*
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to grow in you a heart of compassion for the weak and vulnerable. Pray for insight into how Jesus, as your Redeemer, has covered you in order to fuel you to joyfully seek to cover others.*