

# The Facilitator

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Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

6/11/17

**Text: Ruth 1:1-5 & 4:13-22**

**Title: Journey of Hope**

**Teacher: Josh Floyd**

## **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*

*Josh concluded our sermon series on the book of Ruth as we looked at this Journey of Hope that is portrayed in Ruth's life. Though Ruth and Naomi were faced with dire circumstances, it was Ruth's perspective that led her to hope beyond her own ability or control. At the end of the book we saw that Ruth would be the Great-Grandmother of King David, and that the ultimate hope in the book of Ruth is in God who would send a king to save his people. Just like Ruth our hope today is not in our circumstances, but is in our powerful God who sent a King (Jesus) to save his people and give them an everlasting hope in Him.*

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. *Josh said we often only love God when our deepest longings are met. He told the story of his friend Dave who had the big house and all the cool toys. It was fun to be Dave's friend, until all the toys were broken or the money was gone, then he realized he didn't really love Dave, he just loved his stuff.*
  - **Who is someone that you find yourself only befriending or interacting with because they benefit you?**
  - **When have your circumstances gotten worse and you found yourself questioning your relationship with God? What was that like?**
2. *Josh talked about how David, Ruth's descendant, was anointed when he was a boy, but would have to wait years until he became king. He spent much of his life on the run, in danger from Saul. He even had the opportunity to kill Saul and take the throne for himself, but he refused. He waited for God to establish his throne, for God to vindicate him, rather than vindicating himself.*
  - **When have you felt like waiting on God was too costly, and you needed to take matters into your own hands?**
3. *Josh said God permits our lives to become overwhelming so that we come to the end of ourselves and our only hope is Him. Our lives often follow a "J-Curve" of death and resurrection as we grow closer to God.*
  - **What "deaths" or trials has God brought you into recently? Which ones has he been quick to resolve, and which ones has he been patient to resolve? Why do you think he's done it that way?**

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- Ask Holy Spirit to bring you to the end of yourself, so that you're only hope would be in your heavenly father, and not in your circumstances or ambitions.

## **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 God about what's been revealed in your heart during your sermon discussion. Use the Worship Folder prayer items as needed.)*

### **1. ADORATION**

***Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions***

### **2. CONFESSION**

***Spend time Confessing and Repenting of sin and ways in which you are finite and limited***

### **3. THANKSGIVING**

***Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)***

### **4. SUPPLICATION**

***Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways***

## **Prepare for Gospel Community:**

***Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.***

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

1. *Worship the LORD, our Mighty King for His goodness and mercy. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for His sovereignty, power and kindness shown to sinners like you and me.*
2. *Confess to Jesus the ways in which we have been those who have so easily focused on the valley of death and our current sufferings rather than those who focus on the resurrection hope we have in Jesus.*
3. *Give thanks to God for the journey of hope that we are on. Thank Him for the difficult circumstances and difficult people that He places in our lives that cause us to depend on Him. Thank Him that He is in the business of restoring broken things.*
4. *Who in your life does not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior and simply lives for themselves (doing what is right in their own eyes)? Please pray that the Holy Spirit would turn their hearts towards the Lord and may they come to know God as their just and merciful King.*
5. *Pray that the Holy Spirit would help us realize that no matter where we are in our journey of hope we can trust in Him because only He truly satisfies our deepest longings, only He has the power to answer every prayer and He alone is our one true King.*