

Point Group Notes

Message from 10/27/24

Leaders Guide

Leaders Notes are in RED

1. **READ READ READ** – The Final week of Point Groups is the week of Nov 3rd. This is week 7 of 8. Please make sure this is communicated with your group. If you've decided this is your last week, also, communicate with your group!
2. This week's ministry emphasis is ***BAPTISM*** Check in with your group on their journey to membership. It's God's will for us to be members of a local body. How can you help your group get baptized? *These ministry callouts are essential! Make sure you mention them!*
3. Please let Pastor Tim know if you are not able to do attendance electronically. This is an issue that needs addressing.

Getting to know you...

1. What do you find to be unbelievably boring? How do you *keep your head down* and finish the task?
2. What job would you outright refuse? *No matter how much it paid?* Why?

Quick Review – *Have a look at your sermon notes from last week. What stood out to you the most? Did you learn anything new? Did anything said leave you with any questions?*

Digging Deeper...

This week, the central idea was to be faithful in our daily calling, even when things are complicated and confusing. Further, Paul shows us that we shouldn't just sit on our hands! We should obey and have faith that God will show up! In Ruth 2 & 3 (Actually, all of Ruth, but just 2 & 3 for the sake of time), we see Ruth's faithfulness in both the messy and the mundane, ultimately resulting in her redemption. Read **Ruth Ch.2** and answer the following questions.

1. What would have caused Ruth to want to spend time with strangers and homeless people to gather food for her Mother-In-Law?
Ruth was driven by her deep love and loyalty to Naomi (Ruth Ch.1). She knew that they were both in a tough spot and that Naomi, as an older widow, couldn't easily provide for



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herself. Ruth was willing to go to any lengths—even if it meant spending time with strangers and risking her own safety—to make sure Naomi had food and support. Her actions show how selfless and determined she was to take care of her mother-in-law, regardless of the challenges or potential judgment from others.

2. In your own words, how would you describe Ruth's experience?

This answer will carry a lot of answers from your group. Make sure you fill in the following if it's not mentioned.

Courage and Initiative – Ruth takes the initiative to go out and glean in the fields to provide for herself and Naomi, showing her bravery and willingness to work hard despite being in a foreign land (Ruth 2:2).

1. Ruth experiences favor from Boaz. Boaz, the owner of the field, shows Ruth kindness, allowing her to pick crops with the workers, not the rest of the begging community. This provides her protection, food and water. Also, note Boaz making sure there was more than enough for her to glean.
2. The Old Testament law Naomi referenced is known as the "kinsman-redeemer" or "guardian-redeemer" law, outlined primarily in Leviticus 25 and Deuteronomy 25. According to this law, if a man died without leaving a son, his nearest male relative (often a brother or close family member) was responsible for marrying the widow. This was intended to provide for her, keep the family line alive, and ensure that the deceased man's property stayed within the family. In Ruth's case, Boaz was a relative of Naomi's late husband, Elimelech, which made him eligible to act as a kinsman-redeemer. Naomi recognized that Boaz could potentially marry Ruth, thereby protecting and providing for both women while preserving their family line and inheritance.
3. What effect did Ruth's Faithfulness have on the people around her?
Ruth's loyalty to Naomi really brought them closer together and helped her gain respect in Bethlehem. Her commitment inspired those around her and led to her marrying Boaz, making her an important part of God's plan that eventually led to Jesus' lineage.
4. What is Boaz doing for Ruth in this passage?
Beyond making her difficult task easier, he will end up redeeming her and marrying her, restoring her ability to care for herself and her Mother-In-Law.

What does this all mean...

1. How does Naomi's guidance and Ruth's behavior in this chapter demonstrate faith in God's provision, even when the future is uncertain?



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A review of the text will show that Ruth *continues* to do what's necessary to fulfill her vow to take care of Naomi. They have no prospects, so they travel to Naomi's home; they have no food, so Ruth gleans from the fields (not a pretty task!) Ruth keeps working like it depends on her, and trusting like it depends on God!

2. Boaz later describes Ruth as a woman of noble character (Ruth 3:11). How does this story show faithfulness to our calling despite the circumstances, good or bad?

At no point did Ruth quit, and because of this, we see her work become easier as she finds favor with Boaz.

Taking it Home...

1. How are you feeling about the topic this week so far? Convicted? Encouraged? Discuss...
2. In what area of your life are you waiting for God's faithfulness? What are you being prompted to change so that you are persevering like Paul and Ruth?
3. As we embark on 25 by 35, what do you think it would look like if all of Point Harbor dutifully served the Lord without ceasing for the next 10 years? What are some challenges and pitfalls you see coming?
4. How can we pray for you as you work to apply what you've learned this week to your life?

