

Genre: Historical Narrative - Look for lesson points on various levels

Genre: Historical Narrative
1. Learn from characters?
2. Learn about God?
3. Learn about God's redemptive program?

Chesed

= loyal lovingkindness; mercy;
faithful goodness
Ruth 1:8; 2:20; 3:10

Theme:

# Divine loyal love in the midst of bleakness

Hope in God's loyal love!Focus on God's love even in bleakness.

Deuteronomy 28:33-34,45

The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed always, so that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see...

Deuteronomy 28:33-34,45 – covenant curses Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee:

Irony illustrating bleakness

- Elimelech "My God is King"
- Bethlehem "House of Bread"
- Moab leaving the covenant land for a cursed land.
- Naomi "Pleasant"

Hope in God's loyal love!Focus on God's love even in bleakness.

Ruth 1:6

Then she arose with her daughters in law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that <u>the Lord had visited his people</u> in giving them bread.

Ruth 1:14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but <u>Ruth clave unto her</u>. Clave = cling / stick / cleave (Gen 2:24 – one flesh)

#### Ruth 1:16-17

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.

Ruth 1:22

So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in <u>the beginning of barley harvest</u>.

