



Small Group Discussion Questions

Tyrel LaValle, May 5, 2024

God's and Genealogy: Redemption For All

Ice Breaker: If you were asked to pen a "fortune" for a fortune cookie, what would you write?

Big Idea: No matter who we are or what we've done, God can redeem us.

Key Passage of the Week (Read Aloud): Ruth 4:18-22

Questions for Discussion:

- 1) In biblical times, the genealogy was very important, even to the detail of how it was written (more honor to being 10th on the list, for example). What role does your genealogy play to you or your family? Do you honor, talk or think about your ancestors often? Is there a sore spot you skip over? Why do you think this is?
- 2) Boaz is a biblical hallmark of kindness, redemption, and faithfulness. Tyrel reminds us he lived in a time of rebellion and turning away from the Lord, yet he provided redemption to Ruth and Naomi, forecasting the future actions of Jesus. How does Boaz encourage you to live faithfully, even if it seems everyone around you is falling away? (See Genesis 6:7-11)
- 3) Perez, the great-great-great-great grandfather of Boaz, was conceived through a less than ideal situation involving his father Judah and an unfulfilled responsibility to his mother Tamar. Yet, God chose to use that family line to raise Boaz and ultimately king David. Situations like this may be more common in modern times than we acknowledge. What hope does this give for blended or other "non-traditional" families?
- 4) The over-arching story of Ruth, including the other members of the family line (Judah, Boaz and David) is a story of redemption. None were perfect, and in fact Judah and David are well known for their major mistakes. When we make mistakes, the accuser, Satan, wants us to wallow in our guilt and shame. What example of redemption do you best associate with? How will that story renew your vigor to cling to God's promise of redemption for your own life and family?

Verse to Meditate on this Week: ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the *redemption* that is in Christ Jesus... - Romans 3:23-24

Prayer Focus: Thank God for his work on the cross to redeem us from sin. Ask God to redeem our personal stories but also the stories of our family. Confess when we cling to sin and shame, even in our family stories, and refuse to confess and receive Grace.