



Ruth

WEEK 2: Ruth 1

Shuffle the Deck

1. **Postcard.** Create a tourist postcard for one of your favorite places on earth, whether it be a great vacation spot (like the Bahamas) or a big comfy chair with a book and cup of coffee. Why would anyone want to visit there?



WANTED

2. **WANTED.** Create a wanted poster for one of the outlaws in your life (the driver who cut you off, the rude person at the DMV, the gossip at work, etc.).

Deal the Cards

For a study on Ruth, we recommend Premium Roast with Ruth by Sandra Glahn. The entire text of Ruth can be found on line at <http://net.bible.org>.

Group Discussion

As a group, discuss the following:

1. In Deuteronomy 23:3-6 God says about the Moabites, "You must not seek peace and prosperity for them through all the ages to come." Page 48 of Premium Roast with Ruth says, "What does it say to you about God that He chose a Moabitess as one of the five women in the genealogy of Jesus?"
2. In Ruth 1:13 Naomi says, "... the Lord is afflicting me." Discuss affliction. Was God afflicting Naomi? How do we explain affliction? How do we explain genocide? What is God's involvement in our lives?
3. Ruth exhibited hesed toward Naomi, a fully committed, sacrificial love. Are you supposed to exhibit this kind of love toward everyone? Why or why not?
3. On page 9 of Premium Roast with Ruth: "Describe circumstances in your life or others, which seemed like chance but you later recognized as sovereignty of God."



Play Your Hand

Decorate a playing card or a playing-card-sized piece of paper or cardboard with something associated with the following:

1. A picture of Naomi and Ruth as they were heading out of Moab would appear in sharp contrast to a picture taken of them some time later in Bethlehem (4:13-17). What does a snapshot of your current circumstances look like? Moab or Bethlehem?
2. About the meaning of hesed and/or how it represents the character of God (use the image of the Hebrew word below, if you like. Right click to copy.)

חֶסֶד

3. A comparison of your perspective compared to the Sovereign One.
4. How you can show hesed to the outlaws in your life.