Keeping it Real by Going Deeper!

(GBC Sunday August 2nd 2020 - Ps Ben C)

The Passage & The Message: Ruth 3-4 – First Fruits to Fullness

Getting Started:

When is a time you took a risk because you were confident it was what God wanted you to do? How did it work out?

Open in Prayer:

Going Deeper:

Sunday's message was built around three main points from Ruth 3-4.

Firstly – Naomi intentionally developed a plan based on God's word, trusting God to be faithful to his word. She made this plan out of the love she had for Elimelech and Ruth. Naomi demonstrated wisdom by being diligent and making plans rather than being like the sluggard (e.g. Proverbs 10:4, 13:4, 14:22 etc)

- Q 1. What **Stood** out to you most from this first point and is this helpful?
- Q 2. What **Puzzled** you or troubled you or caused you to ask questions about anything that you hadn't necessarily thought about much before, due to this first point?
- Q 3. What did you **Learn** about God and His people, from this first point?
- Q 4. There are lots of things we know are good for us, but we don't quite get around to them and a big reason we don't is that we don't intentionally make plans to do them. What are some plans you can put into place to make sure you do some of these things you know will be good (e.g. work out a Bible reading plan)?

Secondly – God used Ruth and Boaz's ordinary acts of love and commitment to God's word to work a miraculous transformation in Naomi's heart.

- Q 1. What **Stood** out to you most from this second point and is this helpful?
- Q 2. What **Puzzled** you or troubled you or caused you to ask questions about anything that you hadn't necessarily thought about much before, due to this second point?
- Q 3. What did you **Learn** about God and His people, from this second point?

Q 4. Have you ever felt discouraged because you feel that there is little you can do to help others? How is this point an encouragement when you feel that way?

Thirdly – There are many prayers that God would bless others in the book of Ruth, and God answer them all! Not in the ways people expected or in the timeframe people expected, but he did answer them all in surprising and powerful ways

- Q 1. What **Stood** out to you most from this third point and is this helpful?
- Q 2. What **Puzzled** you or troubled you or caused you to ask questions about anything that you hadn't necessarily thought about much before, due to this third point?
- Q 3. What did you **Learn** about God and His people, from this third point?
- Q 4. Who can you pray for, asking that God would bless them?

Lastly Ask Yourself:

- Q 5. What will you **Talk** to God or others about?
 - a. So what things are we taught about God within these verses **that we can tell others** be they churched or un- churched, converted or un-converted.

 List them below:
 - b. So what will you now *talk to God* about this verse and message? Will you pray differently? Will you come to Him with greater awareness of His sovereignty, love, and power? Are there attitudes or patterns of thinking that you feel you need to confess to Him? Are there new ways you want to express your thanks to him? Please take the time you need to turn your Going Deeper into real prayer.

Grace and Peace to you as we 'Keep it Real by Going Deeper' by taking both God's and our concerns to Him through prayer.