

Bible Study: DAY THREE: "Bitterness Returns"

1. Re-read Ruth 1:6-18. Who do you most relate with in this scene? Naomi, completely desolate and empty? Orpah, trying to change your circumstances to better your life on your own? Or Ruth, holding tightly to the hope you have and relying on God to provide even when you can't see any light at the end of the tunnel? (Be honest; this isn't for a grade and no one will ever know your answer if you don't feel like sharing.)

2. Ruth's trust in God to provide for herself and Naomi was raw, gut-wrenching faith. She trusted God when there was no light at the end of the tunnel. Her faith in Him was shown through her actions. She didn't stay with Naomi expecting people to pat her on the back and tell her what a wonderful person was; she stayed with Naomi expecting people to treat her like a pagan, and even to condemn her for staying with Naomi and subjecting Naomi to callous treatment because of Ruth. What emotions do you think Ruth felt as they made that journey to Bethlehem?

3. Look at the list you just made. Have you felt those emotions over a decision you made? Was your decision one that glorified God? Why or why not?

