**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. May 31, 2020**

**A Recap Of Ruth**

Ruth 4:13-15

**Key Truth:** From the beginning of time, God has always been on a journey to redeem mankind and to restore humanity to a right relationship with its creator and with its fellow man.

**Recap:**

1. The book of Ruth is a beautiful love story regarding

 God and His people.

2. Unforeseen tragedy: Because we live in a fallen world,

 tragedy is something we cannot escape in this life.

1. Christians are not exempt from life’s heartache and disappointments.
2. You shouldn’t go through heartache alone.
3. When we isolate ourselves, we can’t see clearly.

3. Ruth shows us the importance of relationships.

 A. Ruth walked with Naomi in her time of grief. Naomi

 helped Ruth in her time of need.

 B. There should be a mutuality of giving and

 receiving in relationships.

1. God places high priority on relationships.
2. We must be willing to engage in deeper levels of relationships in order to grow in spiritual maturity.
3. It’s imperative that we be women and men of character, integrity, and obedience.

4. Redemption: God is able to redeem your past failures, and

 heartbreak to bring about His purpose and plan.

 A. The ultimate plan of God is the redemption of humanity

 through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Matthew 1:21

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** We must continue to live in genuine Christian community. Pray that God will give you the courage and boldness to take the initiative in reaching out to the lost.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Faithfulness is “the quality of being true, trustworthy, and reliable in all one’s dealings with others.” Is this a quality our culture values?

Is faithfulness an important attribute that you possess as a Christ-follower? What is an example?

How did Naomi bless her daughters-in-law? What did her words reveal about her relationship with Ruth and Orpah?

What can we surmise about Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah’s character based on this parting conversation?

Luke 14:25-27: What actions can you take to ensure that your relationship with Christ takes precedence over all else? What might this demonstration of faithfulness cost you?

How does faithfulness in relationships require us to invest emotionally, socially, physically, mentally, and spiritually in the life of others?

Read 2 Timothy 2:11-13: As Ruth demonstrated, faithfulness is a perseverance in one’s relationship with God through the seasons of life. How is faithfulness an active rather than a passive response to difficulties?

What does it mean to you that God remains faithful to you even when you are not faithful to Him?

Think about your own life. Who took a risk on you and helped you come to know Jesus? What can you learn from his or her examples?