



Week of Sunday,
August 2, 2026

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Growing in the MARCS of a disciple every day!

AUGUST FOCUS - MISSIONAL

Select a question below to ask the group to gauge how you are growing in the MARCS of a disciple.

1. Who did you intentionally engage this week who does not follow Jesus? What was the context?
2. Where did you sense God prompting you to speak or act— and how did you respond?
3. How are your current rhythms (schedule, hobbies, work) helping or hindering mission?

INTRODUCTION

Ruth 4 reminds us that God is able to redeem what feels broken, restore what seems lost, and build a legacy far beyond what we can see. Through Boaz's faithfulness as a kinsman-redeemer, Naomi and Ruth's family story was rewritten and ultimately woven into the lineage of Jesus. It's important for us to consider where God may be calling you to repentance, obedience, and renewed faithfulness in your own family. Your story is still being written, and God can use ordinary steps of faith to shape generations.

Psalm

READ ALOUD

Ruth 4:2-6

DISCUSS

- What responsibilities did a kinsman-redeemer have in the Old Testament, and how does this point to Christ?
- What does Boaz's meeting with the city elders show about the public and legal nature of redemption in Israel?

Have someone read aloud **Ruth 4:13-15**.

- How does the larger context of the book of Judges impact our understanding of Ruth and Boaz's obedience?

Have someone read aloud **Ruth 4:18-22**.

- How does Ruth show God's power to restore what seemed lost?
- How would you describe the importance of families and churches passing faith to the next generation?

DISCUSS & APPLY

- How has God used the legacy of previous generations to impact your life?
- What places are you most tempted to hand off spiritual responsibility to someone else? (church, school, media, or culture)
- If you are a parent, grandparent, mentor, or leader, what voices are currently discipling the people under your influence? How can you become a more intentional and consistent voice pointing them to Jesus?

RESPOND

What is something you could implement this week to encourage, equip, or disciple your family, or those that God has put in your life?

Praying as a Church - Week 27 Prayer Prompts

(Share and pick some to pray through as a group.)

Praise

- As you read Psalm 124–128, notice the ways God reveals Himself as Deliverer, Helper, Provider, and the One who blesses those who walk with Him. Psalm 124:8; 125:1–2; 127:1–2; 128:1–4
- Spend time praising God for who He is before focusing on what He has done for you. Psalm 125:1–2
- Let God's faithfulness throughout Israel's story become the foundation of your worship. Psalm 126:1–3

Silence & Solitude Sit quietly with the Lord after reading 1 Samuel 15.

- Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal any places where your heart has become divided or where obedience has become selective. 1 Samuel 15:22–23
- Resist the urge to justify yourself. Simply listen for His voice and remain open to His loving correction. 1 Samuel 15:24–26

Ask — Allow the Word to Guide Your Prayer Requests

- Let Samuel's call to fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully shape your prayers. 1 Samuel 12:24
- Ask God to strengthen your desire to trust Him completely. Psalm 125:1
- Invite Him to help you respond quickly whenever He calls you to obey. 1 Samuel 15:22
- Pray that the Lord would continue forming Christlike character within you. Psalm 128:1–4

Lament — What Has Grieved You as You Have Read the Word?

- Reflect on how pride, fear of people, or self-reliance affected Saul's relationship with God. 1 Samuel 15:17–24
- Honestly bring before the Lord the places where you have relied on yourself instead of Him. Psalm 124:8
- Confess any areas where outward obedience has replaced wholehearted surrender. 1 Samuel 15:22–23
- Receive His grace and thank Him for His willingness to restore those who return to Him. Psalm 126:4–6.

Mission

- Pray that God would use the End Hunger in Sumner Fall Kickoff to reveal His love to our community.
- Ask Him to provide opportunities for Gospel conversations through every act of service.
- Pray that volunteers would serve with joy and that those receiving help would encounter the hope of Christ.

This Week: End Hunger in Sumner Fall Kickoff

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

Ruth 4:2-6

What did Boaz do to help Ruth and Naomi, and why was that a loving thing to do?

For younger children, help them see that Boaz protected and cared for Ruth and Naomi when they needed help. For older children and students, talk about how Boaz acted as a family redeemer, which meant he took responsibility to restore what had been lost.

How do you think Ruth and Naomi felt when God gave them a new family and a baby named Obed?

For younger children, invite them to name feelings like happy, safe, loved, or thankful. For older children and students, guide them to think about how God brought hope after sadness and showed that He was still working in their story.

Ruth and Boaz became part of the family line of King David and, later, Jesus. What does that teach us about how God can use ordinary families?

For younger children, explain that God used Ruth's family in a very special way. For older children and students, discuss how small choices of faithfulness can become part of God's bigger plan, even when we cannot see it yet.

GET INTO THE WORD

A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

Week 27

- 1 Samuel 9 / Psalm 124
- 1 Samuel 10 / Psalm 125
- 1 Samuel 12 / Psalm 126
- 1 Samuel 14 / Psalm 127
- 1 Samuel 15 / Psalm 128

MEMORIZE: Zephaniah 3:17, 1
Peter 3:15

Other Resources

Resources for Family Discipleship



Check out Long Hollow's list of resources to help parents **disciple their families** through every stage of life.

WATCH

The Bible Project's Guide - Ruth



See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into **Ruth** and its themes.

The Bible Project's Guide - Psalms



See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into **Psalms** and its themes.

What's going on at Long Hollow

- **Summer Prayer Nights** - May 27 - August 5, 6:30 PM, Hendersonville Chapel
- **Group Leader Summit** - August 2, 5 PM - 7:45PM Hendersonville Worship Center
- **Nashville Men's Conference** - August 8, 9 AM- 3PM Belmont Curb Arena
- **1st Grade Bible Presentation** - August 14 during services, Hendersonville Worship Center
- **Wednesdays at LH** (Every Man, Every Woman, School of Ministry) - August 12 6:30PM

Starting a D-Group

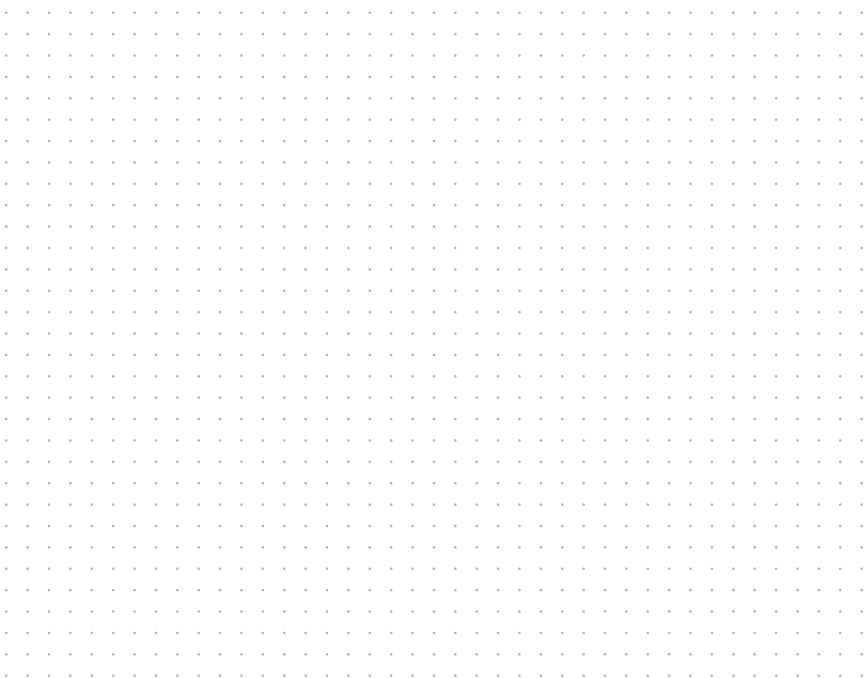
If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.

longhollow.com/dgroups

What's Going On?

Ruth 4 is the final chapter of Ruth's story. The book began with loss: Naomi's husband and sons died, leaving Naomi and Ruth vulnerable and uncertain about the future. Ruth stayed loyal to Naomi, returned with her to Bethlehem, and worked in Boaz's field to provide food. By chapter 4, Boaz is ready to act as a family redeemer.

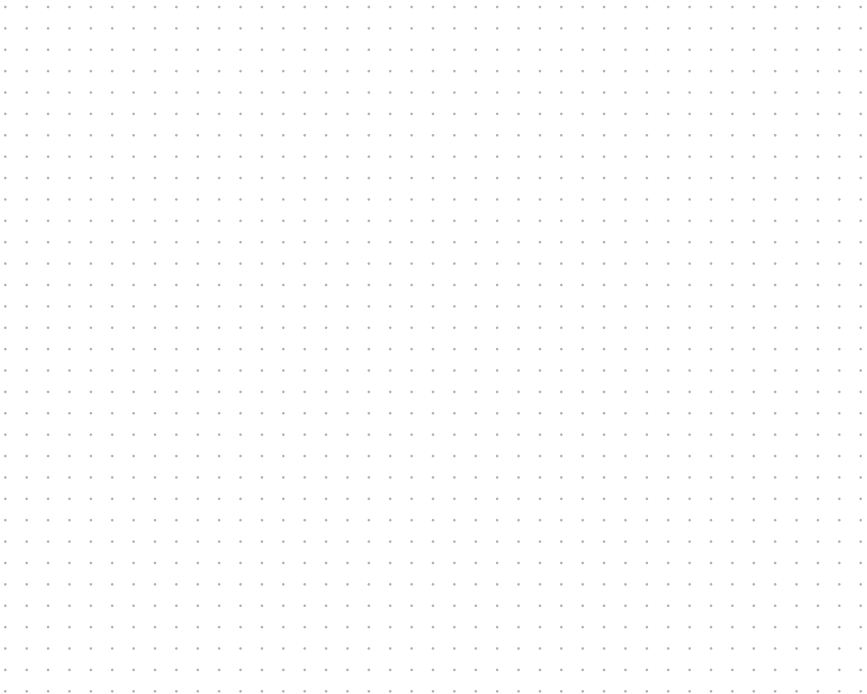
He goes to the town gate, where important legal decisions were made, and speaks with the closer relative who had the first right to redeem the family land. When that man refuses, Boaz publicly agrees to redeem the land and marry Ruth. The chapter ends not just with a wedding, but with the birth of Obed and a family line that leads to King David.



A Bit of Background

In Israel, God gave laws to protect families from losing everything permanently. A “family redeemer” was a close relative who could buy back land, help a relative in trouble, or preserve a family line. This mattered deeply because land, family name, and inheritance were tied to God’s promises.

Ruth was also a Moabite, an outsider to Israel, which makes her place in this story even more surprising and beautiful. Through Boaz’s costly faithfulness, Naomi and Ruth were restored. Even more, God used this family to carry forward the line that would eventually lead to Jesus.



BIRTH OF
CHRIST

CRUCIFIXATION
& RESURRECTION

BOOK OF
REVELATION

Then Boaz took ten men of the town's elders and said, "Sit here." And they sat down. He said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has returned from the territory of Moab, is selling the portion of the field that belonged to our brother Elimelech. I thought I should inform you: Buy it back in the presence of those seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you want to redeem it, do it. But if you do not want to redeem it, tell me so that I will know, because there isn't anyone other than you to redeem it, and I am next after you."

"I want to redeem it," he answered.

Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from Naomi, you will acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the deceased man, to perpetuate the man's name on his property."

The redeemer replied, "I can't redeem it myself, or I will ruin my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption, because I can't redeem it."

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

MISSIONAL

Engaging with the world to share the Gospel intentionally.

ACCOUNTABLE

Being transparent with Christ and other believers about your walk.

REPRODUCIBLE

Disciples who make disciples; the mentee becomes the mentor.

COMMUNAL

Living in deep community with other believers; never alone.

SCRIPTURAL

Grounded in the Word of God as the ultimate authority.



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CHURCH