

## Ruth 1

*“A Tale of Two Widows: Bitter and Broken Versus Broken and Believing”*

(pt. 6)

**INTRO** - *Blessed Be Your Name/ In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow/ Blessed be Your name  
Blessed Be Your name/ When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness/ Blessed Be Your name...  
Every blessing You pour out, I'll Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord/ Still I will say:  
'Blessed be the name of the Lord/ Blessed be Your glorious name...'  
Blessed be Your name/ On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering/ Blessed be Your name  
Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord STILL I will say  
You give and take away/ You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say/ 'Lord, blessed be Your name!'*

In the spirit of 1 Corinthians 10:11 and Romans 15:4-6 I want us to consider “the bitter and broken” response of Naomi in Ruth 1 against “the broken and believing” response of Ruth.

How will we respond when “the darkness closes” in? When the Lord takes away X, Y, or Z?

Will we respond like Naomi or Ruth?

Act 1 of the Naomi story:

A) **The Good** -

Act 1 of the Naomi story (*continued*):

**B) The Bad -**

**C) The UGLY -**

Acts 1 of the RUTH story:

Have you responded to Covid-19 more like Job/Ruth or more like Naomi (and/or Job's wife)?

Write down 3 questions you need to ask yourself when going through a difficult season of pain/suffering and/or loss?

Write down 5 related Bible verses or Scriptural principles that you need to remind yourself when you find yourself beginning to slip into hopelessness, utter despair, and/or bitterness?

How should you respond to the truths that have been proclaimed during this morning's early service sermon? Write down 2-3 words of personal application in the spirit of James 1:22-25.

1 Cor. 10:11; Rom. 15:4-6; Job. 2:8-10; 13:15 Ruth 1; Ps. 42; 73; 147; Hab. 3:17-18; Prov. 18:24