

Saturday & Sunday, March 17 & 18, 2018 - "Risk - Week 4" - Gerald Coleman

Key Passages: Ruth 3

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- In the Bible exists all of that parts of the story
 - Plot → conflict/tension → Plot to conflict resolution
 - Humanity is the climax of creation but humans disobeyed and wreaked havoc on creation
 - Jesus is the resolution: he redeems the world and says "I am making all things new"
 - Our stories are subplots to God's greater story & the book of RUTH is a part of a larger story
- In Ruth Ch 3, Ruth (a Moabite) is learning to navigate Hebrew culture (based in the law: love God, love your neighbor as yourself)
 - Ruth left her people to follow Naomi (She has been faithful to Naomi BUT ALSO faithful to God)
 - Naomi is almost discipling/mentor to Ruth and Ruth is learning that following God is a way of life
 - We all need people to help us navigate the culture
 - Who are you in relationship with to speak the Kingdom of God into your life?
 - God gives us different gifts by His Spirit to depend on one another and to learn and receive wisdom from each other
- Ultimately, Naomi has Ruth's best interest in mind when telling her what to do with Boaz
 - It has not been going well for her
 - But she takes the focus off of herself and onto another
 - God's providence connected Naomi and Ruth with Boaz BUT Naomi saw opportunity (continue the family line, redeem the family land)
- Ruth does what Naomi tells her to do and the passage is full of sexual tension...BUT nothing like that happens
 - It speaks to the HONOR of Boaz...Naomi knew he could be trusted (Ch. 2: He was a "noble, worthy man")
 - Ruth asks Boaz to redeem them (in the same way he prayed for her earlier "spread your wings")
- Ruth and Naomi go from hopeless with no way → now God is making a way (Boaz/Redeemer)
 - This is a picture of Christ as our redeemer
 - What Boaz will do for Ruth is what Christ has done for us
- Naomi told Ruth to wait...
 - Waiting reminds us that it is out of our hands
 - God is working out details that we can't see
- The honor and integrity of Ruth and Boaz's interactions
 - Men and women were created to live in honor and integrity towards one another
 - Boaz could have taken advantage but didn't
 - What if we could live that out at Grace? No woman or man would have to feel scared or worried but instead honored and dignified as God intended

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When was a time when God made it clear to you that you are part of a bigger story? What was he showing you or teaching you in that time?
2. Who was a person who has helped or is helping you navigate the "culture" and following God? How has God used them in your life?
3. What has God redeemed in your life? A situation, a trial, a relationship? How has it affected your relationship with God and your view of his providence?
4. How has God called you to live in honor and integrity towards others?
5. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Jeremiah 31:31-34 Tues: Psalm 119:9-16 Wed: Hebrews 5:5-10 Thurs: John 12:20-33 Fri: Mark 11:1-11

Worship Set from this weekend:

- 1) "All Things Well" - Jonathan McReynolds
- 2) "Lion & the Lamb" - Bethel Music
- 3) "You Made A Way" - Travis Greene
- 4) "Alpha & Omega" - Israel Houghton
- 5) "To Worship You I Live" - Israel Houghton