



## Sermon Discussion Guide

God's Loving-Kindness expressed in a Moabite Woman - Christian  
Lindbeck  
November 28th, 2021

### Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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### Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- We are now into the season of Advent! What associations or traditions are a key part of this season for you?
- Where have you most clearly seen the beautiful side of Christian community?

### Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- **Read Ruth 1.**
- This scripture takes place "In the days when the Judges ruled," (Ruth 1:1). What do we know about this context? How does that shape our understanding of the story?
- What does the passage show us about Naomi? What does she do and say? What does that show about her character?
- What does the passage show us about Ruth? What does she do and say? What does that show about her character?
- Christian introduced us to the term *Hesed* - roughly translated as *Steadfast, faithful, loving kindness*. Where do we see this acted out in the passage?

### Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- The Lord isn't explicitly shown acting in this chapter. What does this show us about God's character?



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- How do we see Hesed in the interactions between Naomi and Ruth?
- How can we live out this sort of Hesed in our own lives? What makes living out this hesed challenging?

### Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- (Borrowed from the end of the sermon)
  
- Where are you spent and empty?
- Where have you lost hope: in what situation or person?
- Where might God's faithful, steadfast, loving-kindness be at work?
- How might you walk in hesed trust in the middle of trouble?
- How do and how can we as a community express God's hesed character?

### Time of Prayer