

MAY 7/8, 2016

MOTHER'S DAY

Lessons From a Heartbroken Mother

Ruth 1-4 (p. 233)

Pastor Dennis Keating

Scan the QR code with your smart phone / tablet to access the weekly study notes PDF (outline and fill-ins) on the EFCC Sermon Messages page online at www.efcc.org/sermons/.



HER CHALLENGES:

- Moral rebellion (See Judg. 21:25)
- Aging
- Famine
- Kids die
- Special needs kids
- No grandkids
- Widowed
- Poverty
- Unbelieving spouses

WHEN HEARTBROKEN ...

1. _____ God's _____. (1:8-12)

HER ASSURANCE → The Lord is the source of _____.
(See Ps. 34:18; Ps. 147:3; Matt. 11:28)

2. _____ emotional _____. (1:13-21)

THE PRINCIPLE → _____ from pain starts by _____ about the pain. (See Ps. 42:6; Ps. 69:29)

3. _____ right _____. (2:22-3:11)

THE POINT → Try to think about what is _____ and not what is _____.
(See Prov. 29:15; Prov. 14:1)

4. _____ God's _____. (4:13-15)

OUR CONCLUDING CHALLENGE → Take a _____ of heartache!
(See Ps. 30:5)

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SERMON BASED SMALL GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Watch Pastor's Video Blog online at www.efcc.org/video-blog/. Or scan this QR code with your smart phone / tablet to access the video on your mobile device.



Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline and think through the questions below. As a group, watch the video blog (see link or QR code above) and read the passage together.

CONNECTING

1. Tell a "mom" story or two that would help your group get to know you better. In a positive sense, how are you the way you are because of your Mom's influence?

GROWING

2. Review your sermon notes and the outline.

At this point in your life ...

- What impresses you (encourages or challenges you, or both) as you think about Naomi and her responses to her heartache? Why?
- What impresses you (encourages or challenges you, or both) as you think about how the Lord deals with Naomi?

3. Of the "four things to do when facing heartache," which one(s) did you need to be reminded of? Why?

SHARING

4. What have you learned from Naomi that you can apply to your life this week?

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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

HER CHALLENGES:

- Moral rebellion (See *Judg. 21:25*)

"In those days there was no king in Israel and everyone did what was right in their own eyes." *Judges 21:25*

- Famine
- Special needs kids
- Widowed
- Unbelieving spouses
- Aging
- Kids die
- No grandkids
- Poverty

WHEN HEARTBROKEN ...

1. **Remember** God's **faithfulness**. (1:8-12)

HER ASSURANCE: The Lord is the source of **comfort and security**. (See *Ps. 34:18*; *Ps. 147:3*; *Matt. 11:28*)

"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." *Psalm 34:18*

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." *Psalm 147:3*

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." *Matthew 11:28*

2. **Verbalize** emotional **grief**. (1:13-21)

THE PRINCIPLE: **Relief** from pain starts by **being honest** about the pain. (See *Ps. 42:6*; *Ps. 69:29*)

"O my God, my soul is in despair within me;" *Psalm 42:6*

"I am afflicted and in pain;" *Psalm 69:29*

3. **Make** right **decisions**. (2:22-3:11)

THE POINT: Try to think about what is **wise** and not what is **easy**. (See *Prov. 29:15*; *Prov. 14:1*)

"The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother." Proverbs 29: 15

"The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands."
Proverbs 14: 1

4. **Trust** God's **sovereignty**. (4: 13-15)

OUR CONCLUDING CHALLENGE: Take a **long-term view** of heartache! (See Ps. 30:5)

"For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning." Psalm 30:5