

Discussion Questions for Ruth 1

Read Ruth 1

1. When Elimelek moved his family to Moab, what do you think was going through his head? What are the pluses and minuses of moving your family into an area that follows a different religion from your own?
2. Why do you think Naomi's children waited until their father died to marry Moabite women? What does the Bible say about marrying someone of a different faith? Read Deuteronomy 7:3-4 and 2 Corinthians 6:14.
3. Do you agree with Naomi's decision to leave and to urge the younger women to stay? What choice would you make if you were Naomi?
4. Do you think Orpah was sincere in her first offer to return with Naomi? Do you think she made a wise decision when she decided to stay?
5. When looking at Orpah's decision, what short term decisions are you making that could have disastrous eternal consequences?
6. When looking at Ruth's decision, what decisions are you making now that could have wonderful eternal consequences?
7. How did Naomi express the bitterness she held over her situation in life? How do you express displeasure with the circumstances you have been dealt? Do you think that Naomi was right to be bitter? What steps can you take to avoid bitterness when life doesn't go the way you hoped?