

 In Ruth 1, Naomi declared herself empty-handed, even though Ruth was with her. In Ruth 4, the local women say that Ruth is worth more than seven sons to Naomi. Who has been a "Ruth" in your life? Who has unexpectedly proved massively helpful to you?

- 2. Read James1:2-5, a famous passage about hard times. How does vs. 2 tell us to respond to trials? What develops in us during trials, according to vs. 3-4? When we struggle to understand trials, what does vs. 5 tell us to do?
- 3. Read II Corinthians 12:7-10. Why did Paul believe he had a "thorn in the flesh?" What perspective did he finally take toward his suffering (vs. 9-10)?
- 4. Based on your life experiences (including the painful ones), what groups of people do you think you're uniquely gifted to minister to?

Connection Card Next Steps - Ruth 4:14

***I will identify** a person who God has prepared me to help, and I will take a specific step to bless them. ***I will look back** at a hard time in my life and identify something positive that God accomplished during that time.