

Life Group / A Black Cloth / 5.17.20

Icebreaker (Think of a fun question or maybe a quick game.)

What were a couple of things from Justin's message that encouraged/challenged you?

RUTH 1:1-5

What stands out to you from this passage?

"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes." How does this apply to our culture?

In our passage, there was a famine in the land and Elimelech ran. He ran away from Bethlehem, the land that God had promised to His people. To live in this land was to trust God and live under God's protection. So he ran to a dangerous place, a nation of God's enemies. Elimelech clearly had a choice: He could endure pain *in* relationship with God, or he could avoid pain and run from a relationship with God.

How might we be like Elimelech?

Why is it comforting to know that Christianity is *honest* about the human condition and does not try to deny that suffering and pain are real?

Let's call coronavirus a black cloth. What has God done in your life/heart in the past 12 weeks?

Ask ourselves: Having experienced this pandemic, this once in a lifetime kind of thing, will I leave it unchanged?

—

Have a time of **sharing**. (i.e. Share highs/lows in this season, needs in your home/community, etc.)