

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Ruth 1:1-19a

Psalm 111

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. (v1)*

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty & most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole & well in body & spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- Ruth 1:1-19a

...<sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead & with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, & they wept aloud. <sup>10</sup>They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight & bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." <sup>14</sup>Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup>So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people & to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge, your people shall be my people, & your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus & so to me, & more as well, if even death parts me from you!" <sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her. <sup>19</sup>So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit***

1. Review Ruth (the person, not merely the book) in your study Bible & even on Wikipedia [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth \(biblical figure\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth_(biblical_figure))
2. What connections do you find between *Ruth & Luke 17:11-19*? Remember Ruth is a foreigner/Moabite (descended from Lot; see *Genesis 19:30-38, Deuteronomy 2:9*). Consider especially *Ruth 1:15-17 & Luke 1:15-19*. What does *2 Timothy 2:8-15* add (esp. vv11-13)?

**EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ***

3. Reflect on your own family's experiences with intermarriage across religious/denominational lines. Which pairings resulted in both spouses sharing an active, vibrant life together in the same congregation? Which ones resulted in both spouses' active life in separate congregations? Which ones resulted in only one spouse's active spiritual life in a congregation? Which ones resulted in neither spouse's active religious life?
4. Now consider the children of these marriages in the same manner. Which of the four options in #3 is most providential for passing from generation to generation? How can you talk about this with those still unmarried in your family?

**NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters***

5. Every congregation says it supports family ministries, but nearly all of them have generations of empty seats to show for their talk. The secret usually isn't the "ministries" but the home devotional life of the members. How would a simple custom of reading a chapter of the gospels, reciting the [Small Catechism](#) prayers, & sharing a daily high & low together as a family work better than any monthly or weekly program at church? [SC available bookofconcord.org](#)
6. In *vv1, 6* Naomi's family moves for economic reasons, trusting that God will provide in each location. How can your congregation demonstrate God's loving-kindness (v8) to those moving to the neighborhood because of employment? *Review Psalm 111.*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgics license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2022; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10.09.22

Series: From Generation to Generation

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Naomi & Ruth

*Yes, Ruth is loyal to Naomi, but even more so to the one true God*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge,  
your people shall be my people, & your God my God.  
Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. (*vv16b-17a*)

---

**-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-**

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus  
for you. (*1 Thessalonians 5:18*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2022; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Ruth 1:1-19a

Psalm 111

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. (v1)*

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty & most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole & well in body & spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- Ruth 1:1-19a

...<sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead & with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, & they wept aloud. <sup>10</sup>They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight & bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." <sup>14</sup>Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. <sup>15</sup>So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people & to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge, your people shall be my people, & your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus & so to me, & more as well, if even death parts me from you!" <sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her. <sup>19</sup>So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit***

1. Review Ruth (the person, not merely the book) in your study Bible & even on Wikipedia [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth \(biblical figure\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth_(biblical_figure))
2. What connections do you find between *Ruth & Luke 17:11-19*? Remember Ruth is a foreigner/Moabite (descended from Lot; see *Genesis 19:30-38, Deuteronomy 2:9*). Consider especially *Ruth 1:15-17 & Luke 1:15-19*. What does *2 Timothy 2:8-15* add (esp. vv11-13)?

**EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ***

3. Reflect on your own family's experiences with intermarriage across religious/denominational lines. Which pairings resulted in both spouses sharing an active, vibrant life together in the same congregation? Which ones resulted in both spouses' active life in separate congregations? Which ones resulted in only one spouse's active spiritual life in a congregation? Which ones resulted in neither spouse's active religious life?
4. Now consider the children of these marriages in the same manner. Which of the four options in #3 is most providential for passing from generation to generation? How can you talk about this with those still unmarried in your family?

**NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters***

5. Every congregation says it supports family ministries, but nearly all of them have generations of empty seats to show for their talk. The secret usually isn't the "ministries" but the home devotional life of the members. How would a simple custom of reading a chapter of the gospels, reciting the [Small Catechism](#) prayers, & sharing a daily high & low together as a family work better than any monthly or weekly program at church? [SC available bookofconcord.org](#)
6. In *vv1, 6* Naomi's family moves for economic reasons, trusting that God will provide in each location. How can your congregation demonstrate God's loving-kindness (*v8*) to those moving to the neighborhood because of employment? *Review Psalm 111.*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgics license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2022; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10.09.22

Series: From Generation to Generation

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Naomi & Ruth

*Yes, Ruth is loyal to Naomi, but even more so to the one true God*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge,  
your people shall be my people, & your God my God.  
Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. (*vv16b-17a*)

---

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus  
for you. (*1 Thessalonians 5:18*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2022; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)