



Look Back

- Group Check in...being talking about the summer and what your group schedule might look like. If you have summer BBQ’s or pool parties or neighborhood block parties, it’s a great opportunity to invite people into your community, get to know them and show them Jesus’ love.
- Last week we talked about hope and new starts. Where this past week did you see or feel hope in your life?
- Was anyone able to talk about the hope you have in Jesus with anyone this past week?

Look Up

Over the next three weeks, we are going to look at the story of Ruth. We will read the entire book - it’s only four chapters long. Two things you will notice immediately: 1. The story of Ruth doesn’t actually start with Ruth and 2. It is full of hardship and heartache from the start. This story is about hardship...but also about redemption, commitment, compassion, justice, and other things.

As you read, listen with ears ready to hear and understand what God is teaching you and your group through this passage. Hear the desperation and heartache. Hear and listen how they act and react when they don’t see the way ahead...they don’t see God or understand what’s happening.

Read Ruth 1.

- What do you learn about God?
- What do you learn about people (and yourself)?
- Who in the passage do you most relate to right now in your life?

Look Forward

- Is there anything going on your life right now where you don’t see God; you don’t see a way forward to how God can be in the middle of that situation? Share with the group the emotions and thoughts as you have been walking through that.
- What have you done in the past that helps when you feel like you don’t see or sense God in your circumstances?
- Even if you aren’t in the place where you don’t see God, there are many people you come into contact with each week that are in that place - either believers or not-yet-believers. This week, try to have a conversation or grab a coffee with someone and just love on them. Speak truth. Be Jesus to them when they don’t see God. (Maybe that’s someone in your group!)

Spend some time praying for one another.

(SGL NOTE: Next week, we will read through Ruth chapters 2-3. Encourage the group to read through it ahead of time also and be thinking about it.)