

## **God's At Work Even When We Don't See It: An Exposition of Ruth and Esther #2**

Our Point of View Defines Reality  
Ruth 1:6-22

### **I. Naomi's Point of View**

- A.** Now it looks like the grass is greener back home – let's go there (VS 6-7)
- B.** No, you girls stay here – where life may be good for you
  - But they are loyal to her (VS 8-10)
- C.** Don't stay with me, everything I touch turns to garbage
  - God has cursed me
  - There is no future for you with me
  - Orpah leaves
  - Ruth stays (VS 11-15)
- D.** Back in Bethlehem
  - Look what God has done to me
  - You don't want to be around me (19-21)

### **II. Ruth's Point of View**

- A.** I may never have anything but you
- B.** And that's enough for me
- C.** I'm committed to you for the rest of your life
- D.** I am grateful for all you have done for me
- E.** Maybe the barley harvest will turn things around for us?

### **III. Thoughts**

- A.** How can two people share the same experiences and see things so differently?
  - The issue is point of view or perspective
  - If everything is about "me" then I have a perspective that is different than,
  - One who sees everything as an "us" issue
- B.** Ruth's great words of commitment VS 16-17  
"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, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

- C.** A self-centered point of view will always lead to bitterness
- D.** Truth is not based on facts, but on perspective that comes from commitment
- E.** Perspective is the evidence of a person's:
  - Emotional health
  - Psychological make-up
  - Relational vitality
  - Spiritual awareness
- F.** Check your point of view!