



the Connection

MEADOWLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH

23 APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

HOPE IN CHAOS

The Book of Ruth

The first sentence of the Book of Ruth identifies the time period: "in the days when the judges ruled" (Ruth 1:1). This was a dark time in Israel's history when "everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6; 21:25). "The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals; and they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; and they followed other gods from among the gods of the people who were all around them, and they bowed down to them; and they provoked the Lord to anger" (Judges 2:11-12). This was a generation "who did not know the Lord nor the work which He had done for Israel" (Judges 2:10). Instead of being a light shining in darkness, the darkness extinguished the light.

But there was a glimmer of light, however, in some ordinary people from the obscure town of Bethlehem. And although the vast majority of people were faithless, God remained faithful. By His providential hand, the Lord redeemed a barren widow who provided a king to lead His people back to Him. And ultimately, what the Lord did in Ruth's family prepared the way for the Saviour of the world! (Continued below.)

NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINNING APRIL 25



HOPE IN CHAOS: THE BOOK OF RUTH (CONTINUED)

As we observe the chaos of tragedy in Ruth's family and the moral chaos of that society, we discover hope in the providence of God. This heart-warming story gives encouragement to us as we travel the uncertain road of life with its ups and downs. Your circumstances may feel like chaos right now, and moral confusion certainly describes our society. But in the midst of it all, our gracious Saviour is working out His plan for you and the entire world. With God on the throne, we are never without hope.

I invite you to join us each Sunday to practically apply the timeless truths of the Book of Ruth and see the display of God's glory through His goodness and greatness.

PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS



Need to contact us?

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GIVING

E-transfer is available. From your bank's website, select the e-transfer feature. The email address to transfer to is donations@meadowlandsbaptist.com. Your donation will be automatically accepted and you will receive a confirmation of the transfer.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: 9:30, 11:00 AM OR 6:00 PM

In-person services (with singing) take place in the gym. Services are simultaneously livestreamed in the auditorium (no singing) or available to you at home.

SUNDAY, 25 APRIL

- PUBLIC SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 150
- "ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING"
- PRAYER
- "BLESSED REDEEMER"
- "COME, LONELY HEART"
- CHILDREN'S STORY
- "AM I A SOLDIER OF THE CROSS?"
- MESSAGE: "THE NEED FOR A KING" RUTH 1:1 PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS
- "CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS"
- BENEDICTION

WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY/KIDS 4 TRUTH: 7 PM

This mid-week service takes place in-person in the auditorium. If you would like a Zoom link to participate, please email the church office.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR RUTH 1:1

1. What is the main theme of the Book of Judges?
2. What are some of the ways the Israelites disobeyed God? (Judges 1-2)
3. Describe the cycle that repeats itself throughout the narrative in Judges. What are the key phrases?
4. Who were some of the judges? What were their strengths and weaknesses?
5. How are the people characterized in this era, and what is the reason? (Judges 17:6; 21:25)
6. How does God providentially use Ruth to deliver His people?
7. Where in the New Testament is Ruth identified? Why?