

# Community Group Discussion Questions

“Failure to Launch” Ruth 1-2 June 16, 2018

## Getting Started

What if you were to step outside of the spaces that you currently reside and occupy only to discover that you have failed to do what you were called to do, and be what would you were called to be? Would you have the courage to reengage, the courage to redirect, and the courage to reclaim what God wanted to be said about the impact of your life?

Does anyone have a testimony like this, where you started off down a path of faithlessness, but then came to your senses and began to courageously walk with God? Share your story with us. Or, what has impacted you most about Ruth’s story so far?

## Going Deeper

### Four Foundational Pillars of Biblical Manhood.

I. **Reclaim your Name:** *“the name of the man was **Elimelech**”*  
(Vs. 2)

a. **Power in a Name: “My God is King”**

b. **Purpose in a Name: (Judges 2:11, Judges 21:25)**

- Provides Aim
- Provides Accountability

What does God say about you? Read some of these verses and claim your rightful identity! John 1:12, John 15:5, John 15:15, Romans 3:24, 6:6, 8:1, 8:2, 8:17, 15:7, 1 Corinthians 1:2, 1:30, 6:17, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 5:21, Galatians 4:7, Ephesians 1:3, 1:4, 2:4-5, 2:10, 4:24

## II. Refuse Compromise: “in the country of Moab” (Vs. 1)

**Key Verse:** “For we walk by *faith*, not by *sight*” 2 Corinthians 5:7

**An address in Moab always begins with:** “*sojourn in the country of Moab...remained there....lived there about 10 years*” (Vs. 2-4)

- a. **Begins with an Observation:** Just a look!
- b. **Battle with an Obsession:** What if?
- c. **Beg to Obtain:** Got to try it!
- d. **Build to Occupy:** Can’t live without it!

How many times have we tried dieting, and then heard ourselves say, “Well, maybe just a little taste...” or “One bite won’t hurt me” and then we step on the scale and are shocked that our compromises led us to a few more pounds? In 2 Timothy, the Apostle Paul challenges Timothy that he needs to have a strong mindset against compromise and toward faithful living. Read 2 Timothy 2:1-6 and discuss the 3 examples he gives and what we can learn from each of them.

**III. Reliable Accountability:** (Vs. 1-5) The obvious in these verses is not what was written, but what is unwritten. There are no other names included that stopped the move to Moab.

- a. **Calls out to you:** Serves as an example (Titus 2:7)
- b. **Calls out from you:** Speaks into existence (Romans 12:10)
- c. **Calls out in you:** Shares unmet expectation (Prov. 27:17)

Read James 5:19-20. Accountability is the honor we all owe one another. We are used to having accountability to show up for work each day and perform our job, but Christians often shy away from letting another Christian ask them anything personal about their walk with the Lord, their purity, or their decisions. How can you change that?

**IV. Reject Passivity:** I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. (Vs. 21)

**Definition:** Choosing to be indifferent or apathetic via silence or stepping back in choices, circumstances, or community.

*Key Verse: Genesis 3:6: she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

- a. **Faith: (Not Occasional or Marginal)** There was no temple in Moab and 50 miles back to Bethlehem. (Hebrews 10:25)
- b. **Family (Not Preoccupied or Absent)** Naming of their sons Mahlon and Chilion (Deut. 6:7-9) and marrying of Moabite women Orpah and Ruth (Numbers 22-25)
- c. **Finances: (Not Immediate or Temporal)** *“return... to your mother’s house... the house of your (future) husband ” (Vs. 8-9)*

Naomi’s husband made several bad choices. He removed his family from their ability to practice their faith. He set his sons up for failure by naming them ‘puny’ and ‘pining’, instead of giving them proud names they could grow into. He failed to provide for his family.

Is God speaking to anyone here about something He wants you to stop being passive about? Where do you need to step it up?

**Take Away: Liz Calvillo Remarks:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Prayer Requests**