**Naomi Chooses Grace**

Book of Ruth

Judges 17:6 - “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

2 Kings 23 – “and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab”

Ruth 1:9-11

A great example of a Mother/Adult Child relationship

Ruth 1:12-14

Ruth 1:20,21

Naomi - versus - Mara

Pleasant - versus – Bitter

What Can We Observe About Naomi’s Life?

* Naomi followed her husband, the father of their sons to Moab
* Naomi decided to return to Judah when she heard that the Lord had blessed the land with rain and crops
* Naomi gave heartfelt advice in suggesting Orpah and Ruth to return to their home and to their gods
* Naomi seemed to be focused on other people’s happiness to the point of sacrifice

What Can We Learn From Naomi’s Actions?

* Faithfulness and honoring her husband
* Faithfulness to your husband is an awesome example to your children and visa versa
* Your children should never hear you cutting each other down or belittling each other in any way

Ruth 1:6

Naomi hearing of the Lord blessing the land of Judah was God’s grace

God’s Grace always gives us a choice

Some Examples of God’s Grace?

* Genesis 3:21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.
* Genesis 6:5-8
* Exodus 33:12-14
* Romans 9:14-16

Grace (from the Greek New Testament word charis) is God's unmerited favor. It is kindness from God that we don't deserve. There is nothing we have done, nor can ever do to earn this favor. It is a gift from God.

What Do Naomi’s Choices Teach Us?

* Naomi made a wise choice to return to Judah
* Naomi gave heartfelt advice to Orpah and Ruth
* Naomi was a source of grace to Orpah and Ruth
* Naomi was perhaps a source of confusion to Orpah and Ruth

Mothers and Fathers are not always consistent and sometimes make mistakes

Children are responsible for making their own spiritual decisions

Two polar opposite decisions were made based on the same advice

John 1:17 – “grace and truth came through Jesus Christ”

Ruth 1:22

God’s gracious timing is always perfect

It may all seem random to us at the time that everything is taking place but we have a God who is watching over His children

**God’s Grace + Wise Choices = God’s Grace Revealed**

Jeremiah 29:11

Ruth 4:13,14

Ruth 4:15-17

**THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**

Naomi thought God was against her but He was actually working for her and the future of Israel

It is OK to misunderstand God but once you see the end and do understand what He was up to then correct your thinking, praise Him and move on

We as parents, fathers and mothers will make mistakes!

If we have discovered and confronted those mistakes and repented of them by the grace of God, then they are in the past

We can mark a point in our lives…

**God’s Grace + Wise Choices = God’s Grace Revealed**