

Discussion Guide Part 11

August 19, 2018

A Child Is Born!



1. Read [Ruth 4:11- 22](#)
2. Once Boaz announced his intention to marry Ruth (4: 9-0), we read that all the people and elders offered a blessing to Ruth and Boaz. (see verses 11-12). The elders and the crowd wished Boaz and Ruth a destiny of prosperity and prominence like those of the famous ancestors Jacob, Rachel, Leah, and Perez. What is the role of the public in Christian marriages? Is it important that the wedding be public and with the blessing of the Church? Why or why not?

3. Ruth was childless when her first husband died. How does the narrator remind us that this child born to Boaz and Ruth was a miracle? _____

4. After the birth of Obed, the same women that heard Naomi’s complaint in 1:19f, now offer a blessing. They remind Naomi of how “full” she has become. Is there an example here for us when we celebrate the birth of a child? What might a “baby shower” look like that embraced some of these principles? _____

5. Pastor Jim stated that the real message of this passage is the narrator’s comment in verse 17. He said that “Obed would grandfather the greatest king in Israel’s history. David would usher in “the golden age of Israel’s history”. In David would come the

Savior of the world who would establish an eternal kingdom. Based on what you remember about the context (the days of the judges) why is this good news? _____

6. "God is working out His redemptive purposes – and nothing can frustrate the purposes of God – NOTHING," said Pastor Jim. He quoted Job 42:2 as an example. What New Testament verse, that has been an encouragement to the Church for years reminds us of this truth? _____

7. William Cowper wrote these words in the mid-1700s:
Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

Are you going through a time in life where you "feel" that God is frowning on you? Are you willing to trust Him for His grace until He "will make it plain"?

8. On the darkest day in the history of the world, all the forces of evil gathered in one place, on one day to bring an end to God's anointed Christ. On the darkest day in the history of the world evil men put to death Jesus, but as Peter said, "*God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.*" (Acts 2:24, ESV). Ruth's son's name means "worship". The response to God's mysterious providence is to worship. How will you worship Him, now? _____

