

Dr. Larry Fields Message on August 1, 2010

Discussion Guide based on the morning message on August 1, 2010

Contagious Christianity Ruth 1:1-16

Big Idea: I want your God to be my God.

Big Question: Why did Ruth say this?

ICE BREAKER DISCUSSION

- Has anyone moved recently? What was the experience like? What were the challenges? What are the advantages of moving somewhere different?
- Can you identify with Naomi's pain and grief?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Connect the book of Ruth with the Gospel story: See Ruth 4:13-22.
- What was illogical about Ruth staying with Naomi?
- What may have influenced Ruth to want to stay with Naomi?
 - She never wavered in her faith.
- How can we stay true to God and not waver from Him in hard times?
- What are the potential outcomes in our relationship with God when we experience hard times?
 - Drawing Closer
 - Escaping Farther
- What did Ruth see in Naomi that made her want to stick with her?
 - She stayed true to her faith in a hostile environment.
 - She demonstrated how to handle heartache.
- When is our witness most visible?
 - In hard times.
- How does the book of Ruth fit into the Gospel story?
- How will your present circumstances affect the future?
- What can make a Christian's faith contagious?

APPLICATION

- Resolve to let hard times draw you closer to God and not further away.
- Be sensitive to others who may be going through hard times. Be a person of encouragement to them.