

Why is the book of Ruth in the Bible?

- To help the people of God during difficult times
- To see how God works through people to accomplish His purposes

Ruth 1 - Faithfulness in difficulties

Ruth 2 - Providence in difficulties

Ruth 3 - Boldness in difficulties

Ruth 4 - Redemption in difficulties

I. Why is it difficult to be faithful? [1-5]

A. The present circumstances are bad [1]

B. The possibilities elsewhere are tempting [1-2]

C. The sense of hope is fading [3-5]

D. We are prone to wander [1]

- Judges 2:11-12
- Judges 2:16-19

II. How can we be faithful? [6-22]

A. Keep hearing from the Lord [6]

B. Return to the Lord [6-13]

- Ezekiel 14:6

C. Cling to the Lord despite the difficulties [14-18]

- Genesis 2:24

- *Cling to those who know the Lord*
- *Cling to your commitments*

D. Remember that we are at the beginning of the harvest [19-22]

- Matthew 9:37-38
- Matthew 24:21