

Rebellion and Return

The first ray of hope in the dark time of the judges.

Sermon Questions

1. How would you describe “the time of the judges” in a few words?

2. Why would fleeing to Moab not be the right choice (circle as many that apply):

- i. God had promised to care for Judah.
- ii. Moab was too far away and might run out of food too.
- iii. The name “Moab” is a reminder of the disgrace of the nation’s origins.
- iv. Moab worshiped the false god Chemosh and sacrificed their children to it.
- v. Moab persecuted God’s people during the time of the judges.

3. We can also turn to false _____ for false hope rather than the true God.

4. Naomi wanted to send Orpah and Ruth back because she loved them and cared for them. (Yes/No)

5. What is the “safety net” in our society rather than the family? _____

6. Ruth’s “vows” expressing deep commitment and conviction is attractive. (Yes/No)

7. Ruth’s character is attractive because it reflects the character of _____.

8. Naomi accepts responsibility for going to Moab and not trusting in the Lord. (Yes/No)

9. We grow bitter when we don’t _____ to God.

10. The first chapter ends, not with Naomi empty, but with _____.

Discussion/Meditation Questions

1. How could the Scripture be so forceful in saying that Christians who don't care for their family are worse than unbelievers and have denied the faith (1 Tim 5:8)? Why isn't this so obvious today?
2. Consider again how Christ has resolutely promised to save and to never forsake. List three ways this ought to impact your life.
3. Naomi's counsel to the women to head back to their "gods" demonstrates her lack of maturity. What are some common ways in which we can counsel people to go to the "gods" of this age for help?
4. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon? Share this with another brother or sister in the fellowship.

Extras for the Children

What song did you enjoy the most today? _____

What did you learn about God today? _____

What words did you not know today? _____

