

**“Whatever”**  
Ruth 1: 1-6

**Naomi and Ruth**

<sup>1</sup> *In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. <sup>2</sup> The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.*

<sup>3</sup> *Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.*

<sup>6</sup> *When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.*

(Ruth 1:1-6 NIV)

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**Ruth 1: 1-6**

**Questions for personal or small group study and reflection:**

1. Discuss "In the Days when the judges ruled". What was it like during that time for Israel?
  2. What insight can we glean from the names of the character in the book of Ruth (ie: Elimelech, Naomi, Mahlon, Kilion, Ruth)?
  3. What kind of condition is Naomi facing after 10 years in the foreign land?
  4. How does suffering affect our view of God?
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