

# Family Misfortunes

*Ruth 1.1-22*

***bitter about God? vs 20-21***

***look beyond our misfortunes  
to his unfolding purposes***

***trust him! Rom 8.28; Is 55.8-9***

## **1. FAMILY HEARTACHES, vs 1-5**

***God is concerned with the ordinary  
everyday lives of individuals***

➤ ***the times we live in v1***

***a spiritual Dark Age Judg 21.25***

➤ ***the struggles we endure vs 1-2***

***providing for our family***

➤ ***the dilemmas we face vs 1-2***

***hard choices – stay put, or move***

➤ ***the losses we suffer v3***

***bereavements, loneliness***

➤ ***the tensions we feel v4,15***

***joy and anguish***

- *the tragedies we encounter v5*  
*terrible shocks*

## 2. TOUGH DECISIONS, vs 6-14

- *stay put, or move away? v6*  
*commit ways to God Prov 3.5-6*  
*he will guide us*
- *take with us, or leave behind? vs7-8*  
*unselfish faith vs 8-9*  
*logic, or loyalty? vs 11-14*

## 3. EXCEPTIONAL LOYALTY, vs 15-18

- *wherever, forever vs 15-17*  
*your God will be my God v16*  
*whatever is best for you*
- *human loyalty: a picture of our*  
*commitment to Christ*

## 4. FRAGILE FAITH, vs 19-22

- *battered, but not obliterated*  
*confused, but not conquered*  
*a powerful testimony v16*
- *focus on gains, not losses*