

WEEK 4: MY LIFE IS NOT THAT IMPORTANT

God Time Day 1: God Does Extraordinary Things



God used an ark to save a family during a worldwide flood. He parted the Red Sea for His people to walk through. He healed lepers, made the lame walk, and gave the blind their eyesight. He loves to do extraordinary things!



Read Luke 18:27

He replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

What have you experienced God do that was absolutely extraordinary? How did it affect your life?



Who can you share that good news with?

God Time Day 2: Extraordinary Things Through Ordinary People



Read Ruth 1:1-5

¹During the time of the judges, there was a famine in the land. A man left Bethlehem in Judah with his wife and two sons to stay in the territory of Moab for a while. ²The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife's name was Naomi. The names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the fields of Moab and settled there. ³Naomi's husband, Elimelech, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴Her sons took Moabite women as their wives: one was named Orpah and the second was named Ruth. After they lived in Moab about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and the woman was left without her two children and without her husband.

Talk about hard times—famine, death, widowhood, loss of provision, and loss of protection. But God was about to do something extraordinary.



If you are facing something very hard, begin asking God to do something extraordinary!

God Time Day 3: When I Can't See God's Plan?



Naomi decides to leave the land of the Moabites and return home. She sends off her daughters-in-law with this blessing:



Read Ruth 1:8-9

⁸Naomi said to them, "Each of you go back to your mother's home. May the Lord show kindness to you as you have shown to the dead and to me. ⁹May the Lord grant each of you rest in the house of a new husband." She kissed them, and they wept loudly.



Who does Naomi pray will show kindness to the young women? _____

Who does she pray will grant them rest (security)? _____

As Moabites, these young women wouldn't have known the Lord. But Naomi shared her faith with them, and God used her to do something special. Look at Ruth's reply.



Read Ruth 1:16-17

¹⁶But Ruth replied: Don't plead with me to abandon you or to return and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. ¹⁷Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me, and do so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.

Underline the second sentence in verse 16.

This is Ruth's strong declaration of commitment to both Naomi and God. Ruth may not seem that special; this young, new Believer's life is empty and broken. But God thinks she is important, and He will fill her life again.

Naomi's life, too.

The true news is that sometimes we can't see God's plan, but He still has a great one!



Continue praying for God to do something extraordinary in your life.

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God Time Day 4: Staying Faithful and Focused



When Ruth said “yes” to staying with Naomi (and following God), she showed that she was faithful and focused.



Reread Ruth 1:16b

For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

Imagine the faithfulness that it would take to say something like that! Ruth was about to follow Naomi (and God) back to the land of the Israelites. She was going to move away from her family, her community, and everything she ever knew. ...all because she was committed to Naomi.

But she wasn't only committed to Naomi. Ruth also stayed focused on God. She was willing to follow this God who was foreign to her — and follow Him into the unknown.

God gave her a redeemer, a second husband, Boaz, who would provide for Ruth and Naomi. Boaz and Ruth had a child who would be the grandfather of King David. That means that Ruth was chosen by God to be in the lineage of Jesus Christ!

God does extraordinary things through the ordinary!



Many things can make us feel unimportant. Mundane lives, loss, broken relationships, social media, the comparison trap, poverty, tireless serving, etc. What is one thing that makes you feel like your life isn't that important?

When you are tempted to feel this way, remember God wants to be your Redeemer; He'll take you in, provide for you, and invite you to participate in His great plans!



Who can you invite to join you? By doing so you become a part of their spiritual lineage.

God Time Day 5: A Life Lived for Jesus Has Eternal Value



Ruth and Naomi had no idea that God planned to use their story to bless the entire world. By being in the direct lineage of Jesus, Ruth was important. But the fact is, we are all important because we are all God's workmanship and can be a part of the lineage of others being saved by Him.



Read Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

What does the verse above say we are created in Christ Jesus to do?

These “good works” don't save us. Instead, they are just what saved people do. They are part of His great plans and things He does through us. These good works have eternal value!



Read Matthew 6:20

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal.

There will come a time when we'll get to see how God worked through us and how valuable our lives are now. It may not be on this side of heaven, but we'll certainly see it someday.

Here are two things that will help us stay on track while we're living life, waiting for the day that all is revealed:



- 1) Ask God: What should I be living for? What matters most in my life? (Then ask yourself: What do my actions show that I'm living for?)
- 2) Evaluate: Am I being faithful where God has me now? (As a parent, in my career, serving at church, etc.?)

Remember:



God sees you where you are. Faithfully follow Him to become the person He wants you to be!