LEADER GUIDE DVD-BASED BIBLE STUDY FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

REDEEMED

SEEING THE MESSIAH
IN THE
BOOK OF RUTH



REDEEMED SEEING THE MESSIAH IN THE BOOK OF RUTH

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Developed with Natalia Fomin

This Leader Guide accompanies the

Redeemed 6-Session DVD-Based Study (ISBN 9781596369528 or 9781596369511)

with

Redeemed Participant Guide (ISBN 9781596369535)







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Experience the Grace

Is your life not turning out as you had hoped? Has God disappointed you? The trials of life test us to see if we will trust in the promises of God. The book of Ruth holds profound and eternal lessons for all of us. It vividly illustrates the loyalty of friendship, the redemption of past mistakes, salvation by grace that necessitates faith, and God's eternal plan for each one of us.

The book of Ruth teaches us about our own personal walk with God. The lessons in Ruth teach us how our walk with God fits into the framework of the eternal work of Messiah as our Redeemer. God desires to redeem your past and restore your future, so that you might find fulfillment in his gracious love!

This study is designed for six 60-minute sessions with the video portion lasting 20–30 minutes. The teaching can be expanded to six 90-minute sessions by using the Ruth PowerPoint® and other materials included in the Redeemed Complete Kit. Participant guides for class members contain charts and diagrams, study questions, session outlines ("viewer guides") for following along with the video and taking notes, and additional background material for further learning.



About the Author

Sam Nadler is a Jewish believer in Jesus who has a passion to communicate the Good News to his people, and to see discipleship established in Jewish communities around the world.

Serving with Jews for Jesus, Sam established the Jews for Jesus New York City branch in 1975. Later as the President of Chosen People Ministries, he helped build international outreach, congregational planting and leadership development in Israel, the Ukraine, Germany, South America, Canada as well as the United States.

Today as president of Word of Messiah Ministries, Sam is continuing to develop leaders and outreach to make a worldwide impact of the gospel to Jew and Gentile alike. Sam also reaches out to the Christian community, teaching them to better understand the Jewish roots of their faith. With this understanding, Christians will be able to more effectively reach out with the Good News of Messiah, as well as more fully appreciate believers' unique unity in Messiah and the ongoing testimony of God's faithfulness to his promises.

Sam received an honorary doctoral degree from Southern Evangelical Seminary. He has authored several books including *Messiah in the Feasts of Israel, The Messianic Answer Book, Messianic Foundations*, and devotional commentaries on Jonah and Ruth.

Natalia Fomin moved from the Ukraine to the USA when she was sixteen, and a few months later she gave her life to God. Ever since, she has been in active ministry teaching the Scriptures and mentoring women. In 2004, she graduated from Moody Bible Institute with a major in Christian Ministry, along with receiving theological training. Natalia and her husband Peter reside in Charlotte, NC and are blessed with three children, Mark, Daniel and Emily.

To learn more about Word of Messiah Ministries, please visit www.wordofmessiah.org

About the Complete Kit

Redeemed: Seeing the Messiah in the Book of Ruth

The Complete Kit (ISBN 9781596369511) contains everything you need to get started:

- DVD with six 20 to 30-minute video sessions.
- PDF files containing promotional posters, fliers, handouts, bulletin inserts, and banners for you to print as needed.
- One printed Leader Guide and a PDF of the Leader Guide for your iPad or tablet.
- One printed Participant Guide with session outlines, discussion and application questions, and extra information. Buy additional participant guides for each person (ISBN 9781596369535).
- One printed handbook: *The Book of Ruth: Hope Fulfilled in the Redeemer's Grace* by Sam Nadler.
- One printed pamphlet.
- One ready-to-use PowerPoint® presentation with 100+ slides to expand the scope of your teaching.

Available at www.redeemeddvd.com or www.rose-publishing.com or by calling Rose Publishing at 1-800-532-4278.

Also available wherever good Christian books are sold.

Getting Started

Leading a Bible study is an opportunity to help people grow in their faith and make a difference for the Lord. To lead this study does not mean you have to be a Bible teacher or have all the answers. If you have never led a Bible study before, it is good to review some basic principles for conducting one. While it is important to be warm, friendly, and welcoming to participants, there are certain guidelines that still need to be followed.

Helpful Tips

Start and end on time. Starting on time will establish a practice of people coming on time. Ending on time is important as well. It demonstrates that you understand that participants have other obligations besides the Bible study. Starting and ending on time shows respect for the host (whose home you may be meeting at), the time constraints of participants, and the group itself.

Make sure the room is arranged so that everyone can see everyone else and view the TV or projector screen comfortably.

You may want to arrive early to test the DVD player, projector or TV, speakers, and other electronic equipment to make sure they are all working properly.

If you're meeting in a classroom setting with a whiteboard, you may want to write the memory verse for the session on the whiteboard. Do this before each session begins so that participants see the week's memory verse when they walk in the room. (For example, the memory verse for Session 1 is "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."—Psalm 119:105.)

Minimize distractions. For example:

- Before the first session decide on and communicate to participants the age appropriateness of the study and if there will be childcare available so they know whether they should bring their children.
- Be sure to remind participants at the beginning of each session to silence their phones.
- You may also want to dim the lights when watching the video to help participants focus on the teaching.

When you lead the group discussion time:

- Seek to involve everyone in the interaction. Get people talking and sharing.
 Don't let all the questions and responses come to you, the leader. You want conversation be multi-directional.
- Don't allow statements that denigrate another person or denomination. Let the truth and answers come directly from the Bible. Remind participants of the "Group Guidelines."
- Stick with the session topic being studied. If the discussion starts to go on tangents that you do not feel are helpful to the group, bring the conversation back to the topic being discussed.

Wrap-up each session with the "Principles Gleaned" section in this leader guide. This helps draw the study to a proper conclusion.

It is always an additional blessing to have a time of fellowship and refreshments at the end of the sessions. At the first meeting, you may want to have participants voluntarily sign-up to bring refreshments for the following meetings.

For those persons who may have more in-depth needs, meet with that person afterwards and if the need is above your ability to minister, suggest a counselor or pastoral follow up.

It's always helpful to get constructive feedback from class members. After your class has completed all six sessions, you can use the "feedback form" at the back of this leader guide to gather input from participants that you can use to improve your next Bible study.

Group Guidelines

Learning together in a group is a perfect setting to nourish souls and to encourage people in their struggles. It's a time for sharing and praying openly, however, a few values must be upheld. Communicate these group guidelines firmly but politely to your participants.

- This group should be a safe place for people to share their questions, doubts, and concerns. It's important to have a nonjudgmental atmosphere of love and acceptance. It is okay to disagree, but do so in love and understanding.
- What is said in the group, stays in the group. Whatever is said in group discussions and whatever prayer requests are shared will be kept in confidence to ensure privacy.

- Be specific and personal in prayer requests. Share with the group when God has answered your prayer requests so that we can rejoice and praise God together.
- The sessions will start and end on time, so try your best to arrive on time.

More Resources

The Romance of Ruth by George E. Gardiner (Kregel Publications, 1977)

Ruth (Thru the Bible) by Dr. J. Vernon McGee (Thomas Nelson, 1996)

God in Everyday Life: The Book of Ruth for Expositors and Biblical Counselors by Brad Brandt and Eric Kress (Kress Christian Publications, 2007)

Ariel's Bible Commentary: The Books of Judges and Ruth, 1st ed. by Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum (Ariel Ministries, 2006, www.ariel.org)

Be Committed (Ruth & Esther): Doing God's Will Whatever the Cost, The BE Series Commentary by Warren W. Wiersbe (David C. Cook, 2008)

Judges & Ruth, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries by Arthur E. Cundall and Leon L. Morris (IVP Academic, 2008)

Messianic Foundations by Sam Nadler (Word of Messiah Ministries, 2010)

The Book of Ruth: Hope Fulfilled in the Redeemer's Grace by Sam Nadler (Rose Publishing, 2014)



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Introduction to the Book of Ruth

Light in the Darkness

Know

The book of Ruth prefigures the Messiah—Jesus Christ—as the savior of both Jew and Gentile alike.

Read

Matthew 1:5; Luke 2:9-15; John 5:39

Memorize

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."—Psalm 119:105

Ask

If you're walking in dark times, you need God's guidance. When in your life have you found yourself searching God's Word for guidance?

Key Verse

"Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land."—Ruth 1:1

Goals for the Session

Through this session, participants will:

- Gain an overview of the book of Ruth and its historical setting.
- See that the book of Ruth is more than just a story about friendship or romance; it's a story that reveals God's redemption for everyone who comes under God's wing of mercy and protection.
- Be introduced to how the book of Ruth prefigures the Messiah, Jesus. (The following sessions build on this concept.)
- Be challenged to ask how they, like Ruth, can be a light in dark times.

Before the Session

- Ask God for guidance and pray for each participant.
- Watch the DVD Session 1 (20 minutes).
- Read the People, Places and Things section and answer the Study Questions for this session found in this Leader Guide. If you have The Book of Ruth handbook by Sam Nadler, read the Introduction.
- Read the following Bible passages: Matt. 1:5; Luke 2:9–15; John 5:39
 Optional: Rom. 11
- If you are also teaching with the Ruth PowerPoint® review the section "Introduction: The Book of Ruth"
- If you aren't sure that there will be enough time for participants to cover all the discussion questions, choose which two or three questions you want to ask in the discussion time.
- If you don't have class members' contact information, bring a pen and paper for participants to write down their names, phone numbers, and email addresses. If you want to have different class members bring snacks each week, also have a sign-up sheet with the class meeting dates.
- Make sure each participant has a *Redeemed* Participant Guide for taking notes and further learning.

- This Bible study is titled "Redeemed," and the book of Ruth is a story all about redemption. You can share your own personal story of redemption with the group. It could be the story about how you came to faith or a particular time in your life when God showed his redeeming love to you. Practice beforehand what you're going to say so that it's clear in your mind, and also so it's not too long or too short.
- You may also want to have one participant each week share a five-minute personal story of God's redeeming love in their life. There are five more sessions after this one, and each story would need to be kept to about five minutes. You could call the sharing time 5 x 5—five stories of redemption, five minutes each. Have participants sign up in advance so they have time to think about and prepare what they're going to say. And be sure to set an example by keeping your redemption story limited to five minutes as well.

Opening the Session—(15 minutes)

- Begin with prayer.
- Welcome participants. Pass around a pen and paper on which they can write their contact information. If you're having participants bring snacks to the following class meetings, pass around the sign-up sheet.
- Ask class members to introduce themselves and share why they joined this
 class and what they hope to gain from this study. If the class is large, have
 them form groups of three or four and introduce themselves to their small
 group.
- Share your own five-minute personal story of redemption. If you're going to have five participants share their redemption stories in the following class meetings, explain that to the group at this point.

Watch Session 1—(20 minutes)

Refer class members to the *Viewer Guide* section in their Participant Guides so they can follow along with the video and take notes.

Viewer Guide



Session 1

Use this Viewer Guide to follow along with the video and take notes.

- 1. God's redemptive plan: Restoring lost humanity
 - a. The book of Ruth prefigures the Messiah (Book of Romans; John 5:39)
 - b. Unlikely heroes
 - Ruth, a Moabite (Deut. 23; Eph. 2:12)
 - Naomi, a backslidden Israelite
 - · Boaz, a redeemer
- 2. Chapter 1: Faith
 - a. Israel's dark ages: Era of Judges (Ruth 1:1; Judg. 21:25)
 - b. Samuel, Saul, and David (1 Sam. 8:4; 1 Chron. 29:29)
 - c. Bethlehem (Judg. 17–18)
 - d. Tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:10)

3.

a.

Chapter 2: Grace

God is our provision (Col. 2:10)

	b.	We are valuable in God's sight
4	. Cha	apter 3: Love
	a.	Progression of Ruth in the story:
		• Moabite
		• Foreigner
		• Servant
		Handmaiden
		• Wife
		Ancestress of David
	b.	God's Word is a lamp unto our feet (Ps. 119:105)
5	. Cha	apter 4: Redemption
	a.	"Hesed" = Lovingkindness, mercy (Ruth 1:8)
	b.	A harvest of redemption