# "PRIVATE S" OR "BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE"

**RUTH 1:19-22** 

#### WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF LOVE

- 1. God's People not Exempt 1-5
- 2. God Sustains His People 6-18
- 3. God Is Real to His People 19-22

# GETTING REAL

What does it mean to say that "God is real in someone's life?"

What about Bob?

# NAOMI'S TESTIMONY

BITTERNESS, EMPTINESS, AFFLICTION

#### Independent Lens

- -"Self-interpretation"
- Self-inflicted Blindess
- Thankfulness
- "Almighty" Shaddai

### BLINDED TO THE LIGHT



#### THE ROOT OF BITTERNESS

Emotions have a history: bitterness & depression don't just appear out of nowhere.

- Events Outside
   Other People, the Curse, Satan
- 2) Events Inside
  Belief System
  2 Cor. 4:8-9

# CULTURE WARS

Culture of Decisions

Culture of the Individual

Culture of Self-Indulgence

Culture of "Happiness"

Culture of Entertainment & Boredom

## GIVE THANKS

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise."

"Give thanks in ALL circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ."

#### "THE ALMIGHTY"

#### "el Shaddai"

"one who nourishes, supplies, satisfies, blesses, and has the power to accomplish it"

# EL SHADDAI

God is "the all sufficient, all bountiful, the source of all blessing and fullness and fruitfulness."

## EYES TO SEE RIGHTLY

Naomi's self-interpretation of her life, and unthankful spirit, created a self-inflicted blindness, to all of God's blessings and mercies.

"Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because He's given us His Son."

#### BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE

Ruth 1:22

Naomi returned

Ruth returned

Barley harvest

Boaz & Messiah!

#### WHAT ABOUT BOB? AND YOU?

What do I learn about God from Ruth?

What do I learn about God's plan for His people from this passage?

What do I learn about living for God?

What do we learn about ourselves?

What does "providence" mean?

What blessings may be in disguise?