RUTH

Hope: Lance Burch | November 13 & 16
Main Idea: Get rooted in hope.

COMING UP

The Star We encourage you to bring your kids (or invite someone with kids) to The Star on December 5! What we need from our Life Groups are volunteers. There is a lot that goes into this event and the Gospel will be shared! Please consider volunteering here.
Toy Drive - November Impact Opportunity Heartland Hope Mission provides toys to families in need through their annual Hope-Filled Christmas event. Last year, Reality Church donated 1,086 pounds of toys and activities, and we can't wait to break that record this year! Head here to see what toys need to be donated!

PRAY TO OPEN

Have someone pray besides the facilitator. Have them ask God to guide a great discussion and that the Holy Spirit would challenge everyone in the room.

GETTING STARTED

- Have you ever seen something come back to life after it seemed completely gone? What did that experience teach you about resilience or hope?

DISCUSS

Read Ruth 2:1-23.

- What stands out to you about Ruth's character in this chapter? What can we learn from her faithfulness and initiative?
- Boaz's kindness went beyond what was required by law. How does that reflect the heart of God?
- Naomi's name means "pleasant," but she wanted to be called "Mara" (bitter). How do you see her heart beginning to change in this passage?

In the sermon, Lance said: "Loss is a revealer of our hope."

- When have you realized that something other than God had become your ultimate hope?
- What are some "mustard seed" hopes (Matthew 13:31–32) that you can see growing in your life right now?
- How do you experience God's "wings of refuge" (Ruth 2:12; Matthew 23:37)?

DISCUSS

Read these passages below:

- Matthew 13:31–32
  - What does this parable teach you about how God's work often begins?
  - Have you ever seen something that started small in your life (or faith) grow into something significant?

- Colossians 3:23
  - What does it look like to "work for the Lord" in your current stage of life (job, home, school, ministry, etc.)?
  - How might your attitude toward ordinary tasks change if you viewed them as service to God?

APPLY IT

- Where in your life do you feel like the "tree has fallen"?
- What might it look like for you to "get rooted in hope" this week?
- What "margins" in your life (small joys, simple gifts) can remind you of God's presence?

Write down 3–5 small things that give you hope this week. They could be as simple as laughter, nature, a meal, or a friend's text. Then thank God for them.

CLOSING REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Close with this prayer:

"God, thank You that even when everything feels fallen, You are still working in the roots. Help us to trust You in hidden seasons, to see Your kindness in the margins, and to stay rooted in the hope of Jesus, our Redeemer. Amen."