

DATE June 4, 2017

SPEAKER David Smith

TITLE A Tale of 2 Love Stories

SERIES It's easy to know what to do when life's going good,

but when trouble hits, things can get cloudy. By looking at the story of Ruth, we'll learn how to put our hope in the Lord, storm after storm, and find the silver lining.

The love we see portrayed in today's media is steamy, instant, and often fleeting. But David's sermon reminds us that, if you follow God's path, romance is old fashioned and timeless -- and that there is a greater love story for all of us with our own Boaz: Jesus.

- 1. Pastor David gave online dating profiles for Ruth and Boaz. Have you ever tried any of these dating sites, and, if so, what was your experience? What would your eHarmony profile reveal about you? Are you a safe person?
- 2. David said "the deepest connection between two people is the soul." Read Song of Solomon 2:7. Describe what this kind of love looks like. Why do you think this principle is so important to God? How is this different from what our culture teaches?
- 3. We learned that Boaz's redemption of Ruth is symbolic of Jesus' redemption of us. What qualities of Ruth do you see in yourself? How does Boaz's treatment of Ruth reflect Jesus' treatment of you? Can you think of additional parallels between their relationship and our relationship with Jesus?
- 4. Pastor David said if singles make a list of the qualities they want to find in another person, they should make a list for themselves. If you were to formulate such a list for yourself or your children, what would you include on it?
- 5. In Ruth 3:16, Naomi gave Ruth unwise advice that could potentially have compromised Ruth. We also are inundated with advice; who do you take advice from or listen to? Do they guide you to God's plan or the world's? Read the following verses and discuss what *The Bible* tells us about how to accept advice:
 - Proverbs 19:20-21
 - Psalm 1: 1-6
 - Proverbs 3:1-6
- 6. Pastor David said that God cares more about a "good legacy" than a "good time." Describe a time in your life when you made a decision to prioritize leaving a good legacy over a good time. What do the following verses say about leaving a legacy:
 - Deuteronomy 6:5-7
 - Psalm 78:4
 - Proverbs 22:6
 - Joshua 24:15

7. What issue(s) do you need to lay at the feet of Jesus? What circumstance, relationship, or heart matters need to be made new for you? What areas of your life need restored?

Pastor David left us with the principle that God wants to restore us and then lead us in a better life. A better life will lead to a better legacy. As you sift through the details of life this week, remember to connect with God and discover how you can leave a noble legacy.