

1. Opening Prayer

2. Hebrew Notion of *ga'al* (גאל)

Means to redeem, to pay back, to act as kinsman-redeemer, to revenge.

God as the redeemer (Exodus 6:6, even after death Job 19:25-27)

God want us to be responsible redeemers. (Genesis 38:26-29, Leviticus 25:25, 47-49

Deuteronomy 25:5-10, and Ruth 4:4-6)

Functioned as a 'family law' to protect the property of blood relations

Read Genesis 38:26-29 and Ruth 4:18-22. What do you see about *ga'al* in these stories?

Do you seen any redemption in Ruth? How would you relate it with God's redemptive work?

3. Read Ruth ch. 2

4. Questions

- a. Verse 3 says that Ruth came to the field of Boaz by accident (*as it turned out*). Why do you think the writer mentions this as an accident?
- b. Reading this chapter, how do you think Ruth was treated in Bethlehem as an alien?
- c. How did Boaz treat Ruth?
- d. In verse 20, Naomi says, "He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead." Who is "he," God or Boaz?
- e. Compare the verses 8-9 and 21, do you think Ruth stated to Naomi exactly what Boaz mentioned? If no, why do you think Ruth distorted the statement?
- f. The Jewish society reads Ruth during Pentecost. Why do you think they choose Ruth?

5. Closing Prayer