

RUTH: Introduction

The story of Judges might leave a bad taste in readers' mouths for the people of Israel. But the short book of Ruth reminds us that—even in the seemingly hopeless time of the Judges—God was at work in the individual lives of His people.

The story is told in **four scenes**, each chapter telling another piece of the interwoven lives of Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz.

Watch for these major themes as you read:

- Ruth is a **story about kindness**—the kindness of God and of people. Pay attention to this theme, and notice the way it reminds you of God's kindness to you in the Gospel.
- Focus on the idea of **redemption**. Notice how many times you see the words **redeem**, **redeemer**, and **redemption** as you read.