

As we continue our journey alongside Ruth and Naomi, we begin seeing progress start to happen in their lives. Although they have been broken by life's circumstances, they have chosen to press forward. When it is time for us to move through transition, we need good influences that will guide and encourage us to do the right things. In last week's study we focused on Ruth's character; this week we will focus on who influenced her and what her response was.

### What Do You Think?

- Have you ever been in transition and found yourself confused about what the right next step was? What was that like?
- Have you ever been in transition and saw a very clear path through it? What was that like?

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“Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, ‘My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?’” Ruth 3:1 (ESV)

### What Does God Say?

- **Read Ruth 3:1.** This verse shows us that Naomi's motivation for influencing Ruth was selfless, not selfish. What are some motivations people may have when they offer advice on our transition? How can God help us tell the difference and know what advice to accept?
- **Read Ruth 3:2-6.** Notice that Ruth does not ask any questions; she simply listens to the instructions and follows them to the letter. When we are in transition, God often has specific steps He wants us to take. How do we discover what the “right thing” is? Why can it be difficult to actually do it?

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“Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.” Ruth 3:13 (ESV)

- **Read Ruth 3:10-14.** Once again Ruth receives an instruction and obeys precisely. However, this time the instruction is to wait for Boaz to do something. It can be very empowering to be instructed to act, but it can make you feel powerless to be instructed to wait. What is it like to be told to wait in transition? What is it like to have your future in someone else’s hands?

## What Will You Do?

- Our Life Group is a great place to seek advice because our goal is to be biblical and to care for one another. Is there a specific situation where you need advice on the right next step that is honoring to God?
- Do you know someone in transition that you need to advise? Talk with the group about the situation to be sure that your recommendations are biblical and your motivations are selfless.
- Maybe you are in a season of waiting and the only thing to do is pray. Spend time as a group praying for the transitions in front of you.