

Saturday & Sunday, March 24 & 25, 2018 - "Risk - Week 5" - Gerald Coleman

Key Passages: Ruth 4, Exodus 34: 6-7, John 1

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- In CH 4 Ruth goes beyond what Naomi tells her to do and asks Boaz to REDEEM her
 - To recoup the family land and carry on the family line
 - Someone closer than Boaz was willing to buy the land BUT not willing to Redeem Ruth
- There is a theme of the law of the kinsman redeemer in Ruth
 - But we need to know what's behind the law
 - We need to know God's laws but also what's behind them
- Hesed = radical, extraordinary, extravagant, reckless (not putting itself first) LOVE
 - In the book of Ruth: 1:8..not just "nice" - 2:20...kindness = heed - 3:10...last kindness
 - It is not just a concept, it is an action. Heed must be EXPRESSED
- Hesed as a rope with 3 parts
 - 3. Love...selfless
 - 2. Steadfastness...endures but also pursues
 - 1. Strength...strong kind of love
 - God is a God of HESED
- 4 concepts of Hesed
 - 1) Hesed flows from compassion not obligation
 - 2) It assumes reciprocity (if you experience it you want to return it)
 - 3) It must be passed on to others
 - 4) It can't be individual but exists in relationship
- Ruth showed Hesed to Naomi but staying with her. Boaz showed Hesed to Ruth by redeeming her.
- Examples of Hesed elsewhere in the Bible
 - Exodus 34:6-7, 1 Kings 3:6, Psalm 25:10, Psalm 40:11, Psalm 100:5
 - God does steadfast love type things because that's WHO HE IS. He IS Hesed
- God, Jesus, Holy Spirit existed in Hesed before creation
 - Creation and humans were made for Hesed\
 - God's laws were part of His love but there was a rift and we began to as in Ruth "do what was right in our own eyes"
- Jesus as HESED
 - John 1: Grace & Truth (hesed is the word for Grace)
 - Old Testament: they knew HESED by what God did - New Testament: Jesus is God's final word...to understand Hesed
 - Approaching God through the law creates distance, but HESED is close
 - We are called to experience and live in God's hesed for us

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How has God demonstrated his Hesed to you?
2. What do you think it means to express steadfast love to someone in your life?
3. Which one of the 4 concepts of Hesed resonates with you the most? How have you seen that play out practically?
4. What do you think your life would look like if you experienced more of God's steadfast love in your life?
5. How is God calling you to extend Hesed in your context?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Isaiah 42:1-9 Tues: Psalm 71:1-14 Wed: Philippians 2:5-11 Thurs: Mark 14 Fri: Mark 15

Worship Set from this weekend:

- 1) "Higher" - Grace Original
- 2) "Where the Spirit of the Lord Is" - Hillsong
- 3) "Praise(Be Lifted Up)" - Bethel
- 4) O Praise the Name - Hillsong
- 5) "Reckless Love" - Cory Asbury