

3. BRIDGES

NAOMI SAID, “SEE, YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW HAS GONE BACK TO HER PEOPLE AND TO HER GODS; RETURN AFTER YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW.”

BUT RUTH SAID, “DO NOT PRESS ME TO LEAVE YOU OR TO TURN BACK FROM FOLLOWING YOU! WHERE YOU GO, I WILL GO; WHERE YOU LODGE, I WILL LODGE; YOUR PEOPLE SHALL BE MY PEOPLE, AND YOUR GOD MY GOD.

RUTH 1:15-16

Calling Changes over a Lifetime

Bridges have many functions.

They permeate barriers.

They cross boundaries.

They transcend.

They allow us to cross over bodies of water, they connect spaces and places, they provide pathways for trains and automobiles.

Bridges call us to cross.

Love calls us to cross bridges.

Love calls us to care.

Love calls us to comfort.

Love calls us to community.

Love calls us home.

Love calls us to go beyond the lines, boundaries, and barriers that have been drawn for us.

Love calls us to forgive.

Love calls us to reconcile.

Love calls us.

Love called Ruth over a physical bridge,

From the boundaries of Moab and the borders of Israel.

Love called her to a deeper relationship with Naomi.

Love called her from.

Love called her to.

Love called her through.

Bridges are for seekers,

Wanderers,

Adventurers,

Revolutionaries,

Changemakers,

Followers.

Not all who wander are lost.

Some are answering the call to cross.

Like Jim, love calls us to cross bridges to move outside of our comfort zones,

From sedentary to seeking.

Bridges connect us to the transcendent power of love and relationship.

Exploration Questions

- In the last year, what bridges have you crossed and what bridges have you passed by? Explain.
- In the Kingdom of God, we are invited to leave the well-worn path and risk entering into adventure—what adventure in your life helped you embrace a new direction?
- When have you crossed a bridge the way that Jim did, and what happened?