

## Week 1 – Intro to Ruth and “Hesed”

*This series is about God’s heart for us and the outworking of that for us and other people. Using the book of Ruth as our guide, we will apply and be formed by the truths and walk out our transformation in Jesus together.*

- **Preparation Tips**

- Your local site will start this series on the first Sunday in October introducing our topic and the book of Ruth. This will set you up well for connect group conversation.
- Read through the book of Ruth to have an understanding of the story.
- Watch the connect resource video before and think through the questions to be prepared to guide others on the night.

*For further background on the book of Ruth, see “Ruth – Poverty and Plenty” by Tim Chester.*

- **Play Video**

- **Connect Group Questions**

1. When you hear the words mission and compassion, what do you think about?
2. What, if anything, do you know about the book of Ruth in the Bible?

*Our culture has been described as the “kingdom without the king” –holding some of the values of the kingdom of God but a resistance to acknowledge His Lordship.*

3. How would you describe the culture of our day? What are characteristics that you see happening?
4. Think about the culture that pulls at our behaviours, our perspectives and our choices: How is ‘hesed’ different to common behaviours and the culture in our world today?
5. Where have you seen or do you see ‘hesed’ in action today?
6. How do you see the church embodying ‘hesed’ today? How have you seen this done well or where could we do this better?
7. As you go into this series, is there a people group, or person you think God might be highlighting for you to embody ‘hesed’ toward? What would this look like?

- **Prayer and share:** Think through your own formation as a follower of Jesus: ask the Holy Spirit to show you this coming week/month, where He can grow ‘hesed’ in you.

*Check out [thisiscfc.com/missions](https://thisiscfc.com/missions) and [thisiscfc.com/compassion](https://thisiscfc.com/compassion) to see how you and your connect group can get involved supporting the work that CFC are involved in.*