

# TURNING YOUR BITTERNESS TO BEAUTY

Ruth 1:19-22

PAT NEMMERS

May 2, 2021

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

## CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- What are some of the most bitter things you've tasted? If you have time, gather some bitter foods/drinks and serve them to your group (coffee, black tea, Brussels sprouts, lemons, dark chocolate, etc.)
- What are some of the most bitter experiences you've "tasted" in your life? How have those experiences shaped you?

## APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time you met. Anything you need to follow up on as a group?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat taught us four keys to turning our bitterness to beauty.**

## Turn Your Bitterness To Beauty...

### 1. By knowing you're not forgotten by God or His people (vs. 19)

- Are you ever so discouraged that it feels like God has forgotten about you, or is too busy with other people's problems to take notice of you? Share with your group.
- God created us for community. He's formed us for family. Do you feel truly known by the people of God, or does it seem like you're all alone? Why is that? Be honest with your Cell Group.
- As a group, what can you do to help each other realize that bitterness is not home for the Christian. How can you help each other know the love of God and of His people?

### 2. By seeing God in and beyond your circumstances (vs. 20)

- Pastor Pat said, "God is working in your present with your future in mind." What would change in your life tomorrow if you truly believed that statement?
- Can you think of some passages or stories from Scripture that might give evidence of God's constant faithfulness in the lives people in the Bible?
- Why do you think we forget God's faithfulness and providence so easily? How can you and your group remind each other of these truths this week?

### 3. By emptying your hands so God can fill them (vs. 21)

- What are you holding onto instead of opening up your hands and completely giving everything back to the Lord? What are you afraid will happen if you surrender?

### 4. By turning and returning to your true home (vs. 22)

- Little choices lead to big consequences. Has your heart started to take steps away from your Savior and toward bitterness? Make a commitment today with your group to return back home.

## PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Can you genuinely thank God for the trials and troubles He has allowed in your life? If you can, take a few moments to praise Him together right now. If you can't yet, ask Him to help you get to that place.

