<u>Discussion Guide</u> Series: Bold wk1 Bold Devotion September 8, 2024

<u>Big Idea</u>

Everyday Boldness looks like the small, courageous actions of devotion people take in their daily lives to love God & to love others.

🖓 <u>Icebreaker</u>

The cooler mornings and evenings have arrived as summer winds down and fall approaches. What is one thing you are thankful for or look forward to in the season of fall?

Discussion Questions

- Talk about the phrase Everyday Boldness as a group. As you consider each word of this phrase, why
 may it seem to be a strange combination of words? As you initially consider living everyday boldness
 out in your own life, what are some thoughts you have as to what it could look like? Fill in the following
 blanks: Everyday Boldness: the s____, c____ actions people take in their d_____ lives to love G_____
 & to love o_____.
- 2. Read Judges 2:10-19. This passage speaks to the overall context of the time when the Book of Ruth took place. What were, or can you imagine were, the consequences on the culture and the people in general of this approach to life? Can you relate to this approach to life yourself and if you have been there or are there, what have been or are some of the personal consequences you have experienced?
- 3. Turning our attention specifically to Elimelek Naomi's family, read Ruth 1:1-2. What were some consequences they faced and what was their response in addressing it? Can you think of a dilemma you have faced and what did you did to respond to, or address it?
- 4. Read Ruth 1:6. Who first shows devotion in this story? How has God shown devotion to you personally in both big and small ways?
- 5. Look up the definition of the word *devotion* and discuss it some. Fill in the following blank: *Everyday Boldness: the small, courageous actions of d______ people take in their daily lives to love God & to love others.* Acts of devotion fuel hope! How? Do you have an example to share from your own life where devotion extended toward you by another fueled hope?
- 6. Read Ruth 1:8-9 & 16-18. How did Naomi show devotion to Ruth & Orpah? How did Ruth show devotion to God & Naomi? With Ruth being a Moabite (a non-Jew) it is significant that she showed such devotion to God, especially against the backdrop of the setting of this story (how the Jews were treating God). As you think about his, what makes her devotion stand out as significant?

Concluding Question

In the sermon it was mentioned that there is a cost for devotion that we personally usually need to pay. What did Ruth's devotion cost her? What would deeper devotion to God cost you? What would deeper devotion to another cost you? Are you willing to pay it, why or why not?

M <u>Prayer</u>

Pray for the several Revive Wesleyan September retreats (Youth, Women's, Men's) and that God would utilize them to deepen the participants *pursuit of God*, *proclamation of Jesus*, and *participation with the Holy Spirit*!