

Taking Matters into Your Own Hands

Ruth 3 & Deuteronomy 25:7-10

I. Naomi's Plan

A. Private vs. PublicB. Thoughtful Reflection vs. Impulsive ActionC. End vs. MeansD. Partial vs. WholeE. Preference vs. Order

II. Boaz Character

A. Genuine Love vs. Romantic LoveB. What is Right vs. What is EasyC. Godly Character vs. Ungodly Settings

MEDITATION / APPLICATION

Please Note: If you are interested in getting involved in a Crossroads Community Group, please visit www.crossroadschurchaustin.com and choose Get Connected.

1. When have you taken a shortcut spiritually and how did it turn out? Why are shortcuts so appealing? How hard is it to take the long way (God's way) in world of instant gratification? What is the benefit of delayed contentment vs. instant gratification?
2. In Ruth chapter 3, Naomi put a lot of feelings in play. Feelings of romance, getting married and get it done. How hard is it to ignore feelings in times when we need to be very conscience of our choices? Why do you think it is easier to let our feelings tell us what to do than volitional choices based on God's word?
3. We face issues every day that create a choice. We can choose to do things according to God's will and word or we can take short cuts and hope we get the same result. Here are a few case studies, what are the short cuts and what is God's way?
4. Disagreement with spouse or loved one where hurtful things were said. What's the shortcut way of dealing with this? What is God's way of dealing with this?
5. Financially strapped, but see something at the store you really want. What's the shortcut way of dealing with this? What is God's way of dealing with this?
6. Person at the office doesn't do things the way or pace you would like. What's the shortcut way of dealing with this? What is God's way of dealing with this?
7. Neighbors dog keeps fertilizing your yard and does not pick it up. What's the shortcut way of dealing with this? What is God's way of dealing with this?
8. Your child just tells you about an assignment that is due the next day and will take hours if not days to complete. What's the shortcut way of dealing with this? What is God's way of dealing with this?
9. In one sentence sum up the difference between taking short cuts and trusting God and His word.

