



Strength for the Journey

“Whispers in the Dark”

Ruth 2:19-3:1



Notes:

Dotted lines for taking notes.

4. Why was this romance so important to God?

5. How often do you think about the wonderful ways God might want to use the children in your family as they get older? How strongly do you believe that a great stewardship of marriage is not about happiness but about raising a godly generation that God can use long after we’re gone?

Digging Deeper:

If your group has enough time (i.e., you’ve listened to the audio on your own), answer one or more of these optional questions.

- 1. How hard is it for you to release your children (or other loved ones) for the sake of the impact God could make through them—particularly if it might involve them going somewhere like Ukraine as a missionary?
- 2. In the story of Adam and Eve’s sons Cain and Abel, how do we see that Satan’s first attack against the family was on its generational impact for God?
- 3. How do you feel about Joe’s statement that although two-career marriages aren’t wrong in and of themselves, their generational impact is often negatively affected as life becomes “all about me and my career”?

Strength through Sharing:

- 1. In your own circle of relationships, how do you see Satan working overtime against generational impact?
- 2. Read the “Call to Action” below. Is there something you need to do in order to “clean up your house”?

Strength for the Journey

“Whispers in the Dark”

Ruth 2:19-3:1



Notes:

Strength through Prayer:

Spend a few moments as a group in silent, personal prayer. Thank God for His gifts of marriage and family and commit yourself to honoring His intentions for them.

You may want to begin your prayer with these words:

“Thank You, Lord, for your wonderful gifts of marriage and family. I acknowledge that marriage—like all aspects of life—is not about happiness; it’s about holiness. May my marriage and other marriages in my family and congregation show a watching world about Christ’s relationship with Your church. And I want to be a part of raising up a godly generation that You can use long after I’m gone. Help me to stand up against the flow of Satan’s attacks on the young people of this emerging generation. With Your guidance, power, and grace, I will make sure my ‘house’ is clean.”

When you are finished with this time for silent, personal prayer, you may want to move into a time of group prayer, praying for one another.

Closing Call to Action:

Just as we clean up our house when company is coming, let’s take seriously the need to “clean up our house” so that our families can reflect the glory of God as our children grow to carry God’s work into the next generation.

Only you can say what that will mean for you. For example, what kind of music are your kids listening to? Parenting is not a popularity contest. There are some times when you just have to say, “You know what, in our house we don’t listen to that kind of music.” Tell them why: “Those words are destructive; Satan will use them in your heart to defeat you and destroy you.”

What kind of TV programs and movies do you let your kids watch? What kind of TV programs and movies do your kids see you watching? Do you have parental controls on the Internet? Whatever it takes, it’s time to clean up your house so that you can be a part of the wonderful plan of God to rear a godly generation that is powerful for Him in their day.