

Pastor Faith Schierholt

For Sunday, February 2nd
"In the Valley"

Hebrews 12:7-11 – NIV

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Ruth 1:1-5 – NIV

¹ In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. ² The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

³ Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

Takeaway: Our toughest moments will be redeemed by God's faithful love.

Questions:

1. Think of a time you had a "mountaintop" experience. What happened? What led to that moment?
2. Have you ever had a moment of "fallow ground faith"? What helped you during that season?
3. How have you seen God redeem a tough season?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20250202.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/Pegu92QrKnM>