

Introduction

God is a God of movement, and because God is a God of movement, we could say that God's people are on the move. Migration means movement from one place to another. We can see throughout the Bible examples of God's people on the move, migrating.

Migration, and immigration, is nothing new, it's happened throughout history — people have migrated because of weather, hunting, fleeing violence, or even “forced” migration. Moreover, migration is not a phenomenon exclusive to the US or any other part of the world.

Regardless of how we view migration, the truth is that some of God's most amazing works have happened when someone migrated from one place to another — geographically primarily, or socially, culturally, or spiritually.

We see how God did amazing things through Noah, who migrated on an ark to another place, through Abraham who migrated from Ur to Canaan, through Joseph who “migrated” to Egypt, through the Hebrew people who migrated from Egypt to the Promised Land, through Ruth who migrated from Moab to Judah (to name a few).

One of those amazing works of God came through the Moabite Ruth's migration journey; Ruth, who by the way, was King David's great-grandmother, thus including a Moabite in Jesus' lineage.

Discussion

1. When you think of migration, what is the first thing that comes to your mind?
2. When you think of immigrants, what is the first thing that comes to your mind?
3. Read Ruth 3:1-7. What led Elimelech and Naomi to migrate from Judah to Moab? What did it mean for Ruth, a Moabite, to migrate to Judah?

Going Deeper

1. Read Matthew 25:35. According to Jesus, on Judgment Day, what will be one the litmus test that will determine our Christ-likeness?
2. Read Leviticus 19:33-34. What does it look like to live out these verses? What does it look like in how we treat migrants?

Application

1. Where is God calling us to move from one place to another? From one mindset to another, from one attitude to another, or from one worldview to another? Or to move from believer to disciple, from salvation to sanctification?
2. How can we, should we, respond to immigrants in a Christ-like way?