



Session 13: Redeemed and Secure
Suggested Week of Use: February 26, 2017
Core Passages: Ruth 3:8-13; 4:13-17

News Story Summary

In 2011, firefighter Mark Hadden worked with a medical unit. At the scene of an emergency, Hadden and his co-workers found a pregnant woman in labor and ready to give birth. Hadden took charge of the delivery and helped the baby girl take her first breathe.

After delivering mom and baby safely to the hospital, it was learned that because of difficulties, the mother had planned to put the baby up for immediate adoption. Hadden and his wife, Rebecca, had two sons and wanted more children, but could not have more because of medical conditions. They had prayed about adopting for a long time, so Hadden, along with his wife, expressed interest in adopting the baby. Forty-eight hours later, they were awarded custody. "It was meant to be," said Hadden. "She's a special person," he said. "We know it and she knows it." Today, Gracie, is 5 years old and is loved by every member of the Haddon family.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "firefighter adopts baby.")

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, write the following list of words on the board: "happenstance," "intentional," "coincidental," and "accidental." Ask: *Which word does not belong in the list?* Ask group members to explain their responses. Provide the following example: Making a phone call to a friend is intentional, while bumping into a friend at a store is happenstance, coincidental, or accidental. Read the news story summary. Ask: *What are the coincidental features of the story? What are the intentional features? Did God use the coincidental features, intentional features, or both to bless the Haddons? Explain.*

Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge idea, explain that to the casual observer, the story of Naomi and Ruth seems coincidental, but we have learned that all along God had intentional purposes. Remind group members of the news summary. Ask: *How does the story of Naomi and Ruth and the story of the Haddons strengthen our resolve to seek God's purposes in life's surprises?* Challenge group members to make it a point to look for the intentional purposes of God in the coincidental moments of life.