A. **Introduction**

Book of Ruth can be read and studied as a personalised and miniature Book of Judges

B. **Background (Judges 2)**

i. The days of the Judges were times of declension

ii. The days of the Judges were times of heroes and heroines

iii. The days of the Judges were times of deliverance and restoration

C. **Went the way of the world**

i. The land’s famine as an chastisement from the Lord in violation of the covenant stipulations in Deut 28

ii. The famine is a real concern and how would you react to it?

iii. Elimelech retraced the footsteps of Lot in Genesis 19
iv. What started off as a temporary getaway eventually became a permanent residency in the world

D. Baby steps in returning back to God

i. Naomi, a broken and bitter widow, heard that the Lord had visited His people in giving them bread; she packed her bags and returned to her hometown with her 2 daughters-in-law.

ii. We should never belittle, cast aside and snub out these little glimpses of grace or baby steps in the journey to God.

iii. Take concrete steps to improve on it.

E. The LORD has visited His people

i. The Lord has visited and delivered His people from oppression in the past despite their spiritual delinquency in His covenant love and mercy.

ii. In the fullness of time, the Lord visited His people, tabernacled among them and gave of Himself as the Living Bread and Living Water. Whosoever feeds and drinks on Him has eternal life and He will raise them up on the last day (John 6.54)

F. Conclusion