

## GREATEST COMEBACKS

### PART 3: OVERCOMING HOPELESSNESS

Book of Ruth  
Pastor Mark Riggins  
October 6/7, 2018

## MESSAGE NOTES

When our dreams can't come true, we have two options:

1. Take control
2. Surrender to the One who's in control

When our life feels like it's spinning out of control, it does not mean that our life is out of control. It just means that we're not in control.

Just because our dreams die doesn't mean our faith has to die.

*If you embrace Christianity thinking you would be provided the answers to all of life's mysterious and painful questions, you will be disappointed. God's plan is good and His purpose is clear, but those plans and purposes remain a mystery at some level. God is God and He doesn't owe us an answer or an explanation for what He does. The secret things belong to Him (Deut 29:29). — Dr. David Jeremiah*

*If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don't recommend Christianity. — C.S. Lewis*

What do you do when your dreams can't come true? Surrender to the One who's in control.

**H**elp

**O**thers

**P**romises of God

**E**mpy tomb

*First I am overwhelmed, and all my little happinesses look like broken toys. Then, slowly and reluctantly, bit by bit, I try to bring myself into the frame of mind that I should be in all times . . . and perhaps, by God's grace, I succeed, and for a day or two become a creature consciously dependent on God and drawing its strength from the right sources. But the moment the threat is withdrawn, my whole nature leaps back to the toys. — C.S. Lewis*

Closing Questions:

What are your dreams?

Has your faith gotten wrapped around your dream?

Will you pray that your faith is placed in Christ alone?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- The message at ENCOUNTER dealt with the question, “What do you do if your dreams can’t come true?” What are some of the common dreams you think people have about the future?
- What do most people do when their dreams can’t come true?
- Would you feel comfortable sharing a dream that hasn’t come true in your life?
- Oftentimes we wrap our faith around our dreams. The danger is “as our dreams go — so our faith goes”. Why are we tempted to wrap our faith around our dreams?
- When life spirals out of our control, how can we keep from panicking and forgetting that God is in control?
- Who in your life have you watched surrender control to God when their dream didn’t come true? (Someone who lost their job, lost a loved one, broken marriage, financial hardship, etc.)
- When we feel the abandonment of broken dreams, what promises from God can we trust?
- What are your dreams? This week, how can you evaluate them and determine if your faith has gotten wrapped around them? If so, will you pray that your faith will be placed in Christ alone?