

Contextual Stories - Choose Your Own Adventure

1. *Frustration grows as Chinatown seniors face possible eviction* - Travas Prasad
 - a. Synopsis: Michael Lam, and member of the InterVarsity SFU community, shares alongside his family, regarding the recent sudden eviction of seniors living in Grace Seniors Home in Vancouver.
 - b. Character Focus: Naomi, Ruth
 - c. Reflection Questions
 - i. Consider The Lam family is choosing to be a nexus of loyal-love like Ruth was to Naomi. Who are you be calling to be radically loyal to in your home city?
 - ii.
 - d. <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/mobile/frustration-grows-as-chinatown-seniors-face-possible- eviction-1.5392612?fbclid=IwAR1sF2qh2hhxIbsJgTp2hKtL9qIaq-8e5Db8b9UtmRnfxpE1nIdwFwMal7k>
2. *Remembering Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Colour killed by Canadian police* – Desmond Cole
 - a. Synopsis: It is a remarkable thing that Ruth’s loyalty is noticed by Boaz and by those in Bethlehem. This is not always to case to those who face daily oppression and racial prejudice. One of the ways, the we begin to practice hesed is by listening the stories to whom this is their experience. This article contains the stories of Black, Indigenous and other People of Color who have been killed by the Canadian police – a system that should have protected them but which has often failed to.
 - b. Character Focus: Ruth, Boaz
 - c. Reflective Questions
 - i. Where might we support
 - d. https://www.pyriscence.ca/home/2020/5/29/cdnpolice?fbclid=IwAR2UpkrTuN_9uSsZc9VuVZ9c9tEITD60YtCSCyBv7Zq_JnwY-tVIWtAW4T4
3. *Biblical Hospitality: What Happened When Our Christian Family Stopped Inviting Our Church Friends to Dinner* by Sara Gaston Barton
 - a. Synopsis: Sometimes, Christian's practice of love and hospitality towards those in their community comes at the cost of creating barriers to those beyond and outside of their community. This article is a beautiful image of what true loyal-love and Kingdom hospitality can look like.
 - b. Chracter Focus: Boaz, Ruth
 - c. Reflective Questions
 - i. Where is Jesus inviting you and your campus ministries to redefine and restructure what hospitality and community looks like?
 - d. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/biblical-hospitality-what_b_8908102
4. *There was a ‘giant picnic’ at the US-Mexico border* - Khushbu Shah
 - a. Synopsis: The border between the United States and Mexico is one fraught with tension, fear and injustice – much in a similar way to the relationships between Moab and Israel. For us in Canada, this border made feel irrelevant, but we must remember members of the North American community. This is a part of our story. This article shows a beautiful picture of “feasting” in the face of hate through a picnic table set up on either side of the border wall between these two enemy nations.
 - b. Character Focus: Ruth
 - c. <https://www.cnn.com/2017/10/10/us/border-wall-picnic-trnd/index.html?no-st=1540327592>
 - d. Reflective Questions:
 - i. Consider this article in light of this article illustrating the journey many faces immigrating from Central America and Mexico to the United States and Canada: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/25/world/americas/mexico-border-photos-john->

[moore.html?fbclid=IwAR0JxX_NcigyRefCxkw_hh7qUXETnwTzLDM9UM39Zaq-JRsWcQmOxhtzgmU](https://www.moore.html?fbclid=IwAR0JxX_NcigyRefCxkw_hh7qUXETnwTzLDM9UM39Zaq-JRsWcQmOxhtzgmU)

5. *Honouring the Lives of Women Who Refuse to Be Scrubbed Away* – Sarah Shin
 - a. Synopsis: Sarah Shin, author of *Beyond Colorblind*, reflects on the recent shootings in Atlanta in light of the story of Ruth, Tamar and Rahab.
 - b. Character Focus: Ruth
 - c. <https://www.missioalliance.org/honoring-the-lives-of-women-who-refuse-to-be-scrubbed-away/>
 - d. Reflective Questions:
 - i.
6. *Stories Give Insight into the Refugee Experience* – Barb Draper
 - a. Synopsis: This book review of George Melynk’s and Cristina’s Parkerv’s ‘Finding Refugee in Canada: Narratives of Dislocation’ provides a brief introduction towards the experience of refugees in Canada. Canada often has promoted itself as a champion of refugee policy and care, however as Barb Draper puts it “the record has significant blemishes.” Consider this as you read this review.
 - b. Focus: Ruth, Naomi
 - c. <https://canadianmennonite.org/stories/stories-give-insight-refugee-experience>
 - d. Reflective Questions
 - i. Consider how you and your community could learn more about the experience of refugees in your city and on your campus. Take time to look into organizations like WUSK (World University Service of Canada) and Journey Home, who actively advocate and care for students in Canada.
7. *I am Not Your Clansman* – Othniel Spence
 - a. Synopsis: Racial injustice often hides within ordinary places around us that we simply take as the norm. Like the name of a sports team. Othniel Spence recounts his experiences of racism and racial prejudice at Simon Fraser University. Take notice of how Spence’s faith and relationship with Jesus has spurred him on to share his story.
 - b. Focus: Ruth, Boaz
 - c. <https://www.theparkjournal.com/previous-features/i-am-not-your-clansman>
 - d. Reflective Questions
 - i.

Optional Afternoon or Post-RuthCon viewing:

Link: [Borders and Belonging: A Conversation with Pádraig Ó Tuama](#)

