



Message outline: **Under Bethlehem's Stars: 1. Hope**

- I. Introduction: So what if the barley harvest was beginning?
- II. Many today know pain, bitterness, loss and hopelessness.
- III. Naomi's journey from fullness to emptiness
 - A. Elimelech moves to Moab in search of a fuller breadbox.
 - B. The reason for the famine in Bethlehem (the House of Bread).
 - C. Elimelech's efforts go nowhere; Naomi is left destitute.
- IV. No place to go but home.
 - A. Naomi's lack of options compels her to return to her roots.
 - B. Orpah listens to Naomi's rock-solid reasoning.
 - C. Ruth 'foolishly' chooses the path of selfless devotion to Naomi's good.
- V. Still, Ruth's selfless devotion realistically provides no instant fix.
- VI. Conclusion: Where can Naomi turn to find hope?