

RUTH:

DECISION – WORKING – REST - REWARD

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**RUTH:
DECISION – WORKING – REST - REWARD**

- **Today, we are going to do a wonderful overview of the Book of Ruth.**
- **We will see how God uses Ruth to teach us truths for today.**
- **May God richly bless you during this time.**

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

- 1:3-5: Ruth's husband, brother-in-law and father-in-law had all died.

Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons.

They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years,

both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

- **1:6: Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth heard that the Lord had come to the aid of the people in Judah by providing food for them. So they headed out towards Naomi's home in Judah.**

When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

- **1:11-13: Naomi insists that her daughter's in law go back to their own people**

But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons- would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has gone out against me!"

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

- **1:14: Orpah kissed Naomi good-bye but Ruth “clung to her”.**

At this they wept again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-by, but Ruth clung to her.

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

- **1:16-17: Ruth made a decision to follow God.**

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

RUTH: Chapter 1 – DECISION

TRUTH:

- **We all need to decide at some point in our life who we will serve.**
- **Will we serve Jesus who gives life.**
- **Or we will we serve sin, the world, the devil leading to death?**

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- **1:22, 2:1-2: Ruth and Naomi return. Ruth sets out to “work”. After her decision she begins to “work”.**

So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.

Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, from the clan of Elimelech, a man of standing, whose name was Boaz. And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter."

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- **2:3 By God's providence, Ruth "works" in Boaz's field and begins to glean the leftover grain.**

So she went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- **2:5 Boaz notices Ruth “working”. People generally notice the “worker” who is out there in their own flesh but “fleshly” work does not please God. Anything not done in faith is sin!!**

Boaz asked the foreman of his harvesters, "Whose young woman is that?"

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- 2:8-9 God blesses Ruth and she finds favor in Boaz's eyes.

So Boaz said to Ruth, "My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with my servant girls. Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the girls. I have told the men not to touch you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled."

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- **2:11-12 Boaz has heard how Ruth had left her people and country (salvation) to be with a people she did not know (became a missionary). He also heard how Ruth had helped Naomi.**

Boaz replied, "I've been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

- **2:19-20** Ruth had found favor with Boaz and she had gleaned much. Even Naomi noticed her works.

Her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!" Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. "The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz," she said. "The LORD bless him!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. "He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead." She added, "That man is our close relative; he is one of our kinsman-redeemers."

RUTH: Chapter 2 – WORKING

TRUTH:

- **The principle is this: salvation is “to” the cross – works is “from” the cross.**
- **But “works” must be done in the power of the Holy Spirit or it is just “flesh”.**
- **Anybody can work – but we are to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

- **3:1-2: Naomi recognizes that Boaz is a kinsman and that he can redeem Ruth. Can you recognize your Redeemer is Jesus?**

One day Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not try to find a home for you, where you will be well provided for? Is not Boaz, with whose servant girls you have been, a kinsman of ours? Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor.

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

- **3:3-4: Naomi instructs Ruth in the customs. This is discipleship. Ruth is instructed in the ways of the Law. We all need to be disciplined by someone. Godly men should disciple the younger men. Godly women should disciple the younger women.**
- **NOTICE YOUNG MEN –
GOD BRINGS BOAZ A BRIDE.
(also Adam, Isaac, etc.)**

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

Wash and perfume yourself, and put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do."

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

- **1:7 Ruth learns the important lesson of Christianity – REST. She rests at the feet of Boaz – we are to rest at the feet of Jesus – the beautiful rest we obtain from trusting in Christ’s shed blood at the cross for our sins. We should step out in faith – trusting God – and walking in God’s Spirit**

When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Ruth approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down.

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

- **1:9 Ruth asks Boaz to spread his garment over her. She recognizes him as a kinsman-redeemer. We recognize Jesus at the ONE Who can Redeem us from “sin” and “our sinful nature.”.**

"Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she said. "Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a kinsman-redeemer."

RUTH: Chapter 3 – REST

TRUTH:

- **We are to “rest” in Christ. Walk in His Spirit being controlled by His Spirit continually.**

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

- **4:1-13** Boaz redeems Ruth. Boaz takes Ruth to be his wife. She conceives a son. Ruth is rewarded.

Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat there. When the kinsman-redeemer he had mentioned came along, Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he went over and sat down. Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," and they did so.

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line."

"I will redeem it," he said.

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth the Moabitess, you acquire the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property."

At this, the kinsman-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it."

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

(Now in earlier times in Israel, for the redemption and transfer of property to become final, one party took off his sandal and gave it to the other. This was the method of legalizing transactions in Israel.)

So the kinsman-redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it yourself." And he removed his sandal. Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, "Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon."

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from the town records. Today you are witnesses!"

Then the elders and all those at the gate said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem."

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah." So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

- **4:14-15** And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David

The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

- **4:18-22 God blessed Ruth. He rewarded her with a husband, child, and graciously put her in the line of David.**

This, then, is the family line of Perez: Perez was the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David.

RUTH: Chapter 4 – REWARD

TRUTH:

- Obedience brings reward.
- God will reward us “here” with “blessings” and when we get home with “eternal rewards” that will never perish!!

NAOMI:

BLESSED

BITTER

BLESSED

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

Let's spend some time now looking at a lady we don't spend much time with.

Let's look at how Naomi goes through so many trials and God blessed her in the end.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:1-2 Naomi had a husband, two sons.**

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:3-4 Her husband dies. Then her sons marry and she has two daughters-in-law.**

Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years,

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:5 Then she loses her and sons.**

both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:8 She tells her daughters-in-law to go back to their own people.**

Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to your dead and to me.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:15 Naomi tells Ruth to go back to her people**

"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **1:20 Naomi means “pleasant” but now she says call me Mara meaning “bitter”.**

"Don't call me Naomi," she told them. "Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **2:19 Naomi notices God's grace for Ruth and her. Ruth brings home much from gleaning in the fields.**

Her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!" Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. "The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz," she said.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **2:20 Naomi teaches.**

"The LORD bless him!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. "He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead." She added, "That man is our close relative; he is one of our kinsman-redeemers."

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **2:22 Naomi begins discipling Ruth – instructing her in the ways of the Lord.**

Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, "It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with his girls, because in someone else's field you might be harmed."

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **3:1 Naomi continues to disciple**

One day Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not try to find a home for you, where you will be well provided for?"

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **3:16,18** **Continual discipleship**

When Ruth came to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, "How did it go, my daughter?" Then she told her everything Boaz had done for her

Then Naomi said, "Wait, my daughter, until you find out what happens. For the man will not rest until the matter is settled today."

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **4:16 Naomi takes the child in her lap. Can you imagine this moment after the “loss” of her two children.**

Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him.

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

- **4:17 Naomi has a son in Boaz and a grandson in Obed. She is redeemed. She is now noticed and respected by her “friends” again.**

**The women living there said, "Naomi has a son."
And they named him Obed. He was the father of
Jesse, the father of David.**

NAOMI: BLESSED – BITTER - BLESSED

TRUTH:

- **No matter what you are going through – stay faithful to God.**
- **Naomi admitted she was bitter. God intervened and showed grace by giving food.**
- **Naomi opened her “devastated heart” to God and began to disciple Ruth.**
- **Naomi is rewarded with a son and grandson.**

A FINAL THOUGHT

These are the last days before Jesus comes and takes back His bride.

I was thinking about how God brought Eve to Adam.

Beautiful Eve!!!

How Adam must have been blessed.

A FINAL THOUGHT

Then one day she went out beautiful,
unblemished, and unscathed.

But she returned infested with sin.

Not "a wrong act sin" but "a sin nature".

Encompassing every bit of her being and
manifesting "spiritual" and "physical" death.

A FINAL THOUGHT

Adam must have looked upon her and been in shock!! What has happened to my Eve?

But he saw something beyond her fallen, blemished being. He saw his bride whom he loved.

When the offer was made to partake in her sin - Adam freely chose.

A FINAL THOUGHT

**Nobody forced him - he made a choice on his own
and entered into sin.**

Adam made a mistake and became tainted by sin.

It cost him his uninhibited walk with Christ.

A FINAL THOUGHT

But in Christ, it was different. Christ saw our tainted, blemished, sinful race. Even though we were sinful and appalling, "La Perfect Une", chose to come to us.

But Jesus saw beyond our wretchedness and His heart welled up with love.

He loved us unconditionally. And He saw what could be – salvation, redemption, and restoration.

But, unlike Adam, Christ chose “not to sin” even though it would cost His life.

A FINAL THOUGHT

Christ left perfection and took on imperfection.

How many times we as fallen beings cannot stand looking on those so infested by sin.

But with Christ, this was Perfection and Beauty responding to infestation at the furthest poles imaginable!!

A FINAL THOUGHT

**Yet, He entered into sin - took it all upon Himself -
the sin of the world. And His bride was saved!!!**

**And guess, what? He's coming back for us with a
love that is so infinite, so perfect, and so
complete to bring full restoration!!!**

A FINAL THOUGHT

How should we respond?

"For Christ's love compels us because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all so that all who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again." (2 Cor. 5:14-15)

A FINAL THOUGHT

**We should be
compelled
by Christ's love!!**

MARRIAGE FOUNDATIONS

**“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 1. To be a failure as a wife is to be a failure in life.**
- 2. The purpose for woman’s creation was to be a wife.**
- 3. Give your husband first place in your life.**
- 4. Do not brag on other men in your husband’s presence.**
- 5. If your husband is unsaved and the least big antagonistic toward the church, do not discuss the church with him or tell how much you enjoy it in front of him.**

**“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 6. Be sure that you boost your husband. Do not tear him down. Remember you are a helper.**
- 7. Make your husband feel important. For you to be queen you have to make him king.**
- 8. Keep the home atmosphere as pleasant as possible.**
- 9. Do not argue with the children or attempt to correct them in the presence of the husband.**
- 10. If you are more efficient than he is, appear to be less efficient. Show your need of him.**

**“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 11. Put your husband before your children.**
- 12. Love your husband and let him know it.**
- 13. Spend time with him regularly.**
- 14. Be interested in his activities.**
- 15. Always submit yourself to your husband.**

**“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 16. Be beautiful and appealing.**
- 17. Dress as he wants you to dress. Think of him in choosing your wardrobe.**
- 18. Talk to him lovingly about his needs.**
- 19. Be a good conversationalist and a good listener.**
- 20. Don't forget to be more romantic and more appealing with the passing of the years.**

**“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 21. Be very frugal financially**
- 22. Never criticize his parents**
- 23. Encourage him to take the lead of the family spiritually**
- 24. If your husband refuses to lead spiritually, have the family altar with the children when he’s not present**
- 25. Arrange to eat privately with your husband often**

“Things for a Wife to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners

- 26. Learn to have fun together. Maybe a hobby could get started.**
- 27. Do not boss your husband or tell him what to do around the house. Courteously, lovingly and kindly you may ask him; but keep clear of any strong suggestions or orders.**
- 28. Do not take the children’s side when your husband disciplines them. Stay together on discipline.**
- 29. Do not spank a child when you are angry. Simply send him/her to their room. Spank him privately, carefully and prayerfully, explaining to him why.**
- 30. Be sure that the degree of discipline given to a child is proportionate to the degree of guilt.**

“Things for a Wife to Remember”

You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners

- 31. If you husband is guilty of fornication, you then have scriptural grounds for divorce. This does not mean that you are commanded to divorce, but it does mean that you are permitted to divorce. If the home is saved & forgiveness offered, do not bring up the past.**
- 32. Be very careful with your relationship with the opposite sex. Do not place yourself in positions where temptations will arise or criticism could be given.**
- 33. Read a good book on the home by some Christian author. Read a sensible book on marriage by some good doctor. Read what the BIBLE has to say about marriage.**
- 34. Plan to be home when your husband is at home.**
- 35. Do not be preoccupied with duties or thoughts of duties when you are with your husband unless, of course, the duties are being performed together.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 1. Love your wife and let her know it.**
- 2. Be thoughtful and expressive to your wife. Bring her flowers, perfume, etc.**
- 3. Be gentle in all your dealings with her. Never be harsh or physically abusive.**
- 4. Assume your place of leadership in the home.**
- 5. Never brag excessively about another lady in the presence of your wife.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 6. Always keep appointments with your wife.**
- 7. Always come home from work at the expected time. If this is not possible, call!**
- 8. Hold your relationship sacred. Do not reveal it to others. Let her know it is very precious to you.**
- 9. Eat out with your wife at least once a week.**
- 10. Have fun with your wife. Somebody has said, “Couples that pray together, stay together”. Add, “Couples that pray and play together, stay together.”**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 11. Lead in spiritual activities. Say grace at the table. Lead in the family devotions. Come to church with your family.**
- 12. Be as pleasant as possible at home.**
- 13. Go shopping together. Enjoy the commonplace things of life with each other**
- 14. Never criticize her parents.**
- 15. Be sure that your wife is happy with your love life.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 16. Help her in some of the household duties**
- 17. Be interested in what your wife’s activities were for the day**
- 18. Do not take the children’s side when your wife disciplines them. Stay together on discipline**
- 19. Do not spank a child when you are angry. Simply send them to their room. Spank them privately, carefully, and prayerfully, explaining to them why.**
- 20. Be sure that the degree of discipline given to a child is proportionate to the degree of guilt.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 21. If your wife is guilty of fornication, you then have scriptural grounds for divorce. This does not mean that you are commanded to divorce, but it does mean that you are permitted to divorce. If the home is saved and forgiveness offered, do not bring up the past.**
- 22. Be very careful with your relationship with the opposite sex. Do not place yourself in positions where temptations will arise or criticism could be given.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should Be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

- 23. Usually it is best for the husband to handle the finances, giving his wife an allowance for groceries and incidentals. A little extra should be included in this allowance so that the wife will have a little spending money.**
- 24. Read on a good book on the home by some Christian author. Read a sensible book on marriage by some good doctor. Certainly, read what the Bible has to say about marriage.**

**“25 Things for a Husband to Remember”
You Should Be Lovers, Pals, Christians, Partners**

25. Do not be preoccupied with duties or thoughts of duties when you are with your husband unless, of course, the duties are being performed together.

Four Great Causes for Divorce:

- **Financial problems**
- **Improper relationships with in-laws (criticism of in-laws and living too close)**
- **Lack of emphasis on spiritual life (praying at meals, family devotions, church)**
- **Failure in love life (common courtesies, open expressions of love, sexual adjustment)**

General Things to Remember:

- **Marriage is life's biggest relationship. It is also the longest and closest.**
- **Get help from an outsider when marital problems arise. It should be sought from a spiritual person and sought immediately.**
- **Become an expert on marriage.**
- **Talk over your marital problems with your husband or wife; and do it as Christians and adults.**

The Divine Order of the Home:

- **God (we are to do what he says).**
- **Man (man is the leader of the home in purity, in spiritual life, and in love; loving his wife as Christ loved the church and died for her).**
- **Woman (the woman is to submit to the husband AS IS FITTING IN THE LORD - but not to abuse).**
- **Children (the children are to obey their parents and be disciplined by them).**

The Divine Order of the Home:

- **LET'S PRAY:**