



Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

Ruth and the Redeemer

Focus Verse: Ruth 3:11 - And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman.

Lesson Text: Ruth 2:11-13; 3:8-14; 4:9-12

Truth About God: God cares about every need in our lives.

Truth For My Life: I will share God's love with those in need.

The Book of Ruth begins with famine, death, and failure before taking a radical turn and ending in fullness, life, and blessing. Naomi's husband Elimelech chose to journey to Moab because he heard there was food in the country. Elimelech's decision proved fatal. Although life seemed good in Moab when her two sons found wives (Orpah, Ruth), Naomi soon faced the devastation of seeing her husband and her sons die. She decided to leave Moab, traveling down a heartbreaking road in the hope of finding some solace back in her homeland (Bethlehem).

Naomi expressed her despair and destitution to her two daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah. Naomi informed them that she had no more children in her womb nor the ability to bear them. Orpah understood the message and left. Ruth, however, missed Naomi's very human cue. But in doing so, she was in perfect sync with the divine cue. She remained steadfast, refusing to leave Naomi. She made many promises in her famous words in Ruth 1:16-17. She vowed that Naomi's God would be her God.

The Lord put Ruth on a divine trajectory to give Naomi what she needed. Ruth started down the path by going to glean in a field, seeking food for her mother-in-law and herself and encountered Boaz. He commanded his workers to allow handfuls of purpose to fall to her. Naomi told Ruth to wash, anoint herself, get dressed, and head down to the threshing floor to meet Boaz. When Boaz discovered Ruth around midnight, he sought her identity. When she revealed who she was, she asked him to spread his skirt over her because he was a near kinsman. He asked for her veil and measured out barley for her and put it in the veil to prevent her from going empty-handed to her mother-in-law.

When the Bethlehemites heard that Boaz would marry Ruth, they publicly proclaimed her value and her potential for more greatness (Ruth 4:11). Ruth would add to this house by being in the lineage of David and Jesus. She would be famous because she stepped out boldly.

We must all take advantage of opportunities to care for the hurting. On many occasions they may lash out at us and tell us they do not need our help, our prayers, or our God. They may be so upset that they talk out of their minds, just like Naomi. Despite their attempts to send us away, we must not miss our cue to help them. We must look beyond their words and follow the leading of the Holy Ghost. God may have a greater plan, one not dictated by their words of despondency.

When we have followed all the cues of the Lord, we must put our faith into action. As we watch the Lord place us in favorable situations, we must not simply rely on the Almighty to do all the work. We must engage our faith by taking action. **Faith is not a passive concept. Faith must be put into action.**

Like Boaz, we must step out and seek to redeem others. Sometimes we may think it is someone else's responsibility. There may be those who appear to be more gifted than we are. Yet the Lord has called all of us to minister to those in need. We must not put all the burden on pastors, ministerial leadership, or other members of the church. We must do our part for those in need by sharing God's love.

God cares about our every need, but some may not feel like the Lord cares because they fail to see the love. Sometimes a more direct approach is needed. We will pray for God to guide us in showing others His love and letting them know how much He loves them.