

A STORY OF **RUTH** REDEMPTION



Working out Redemption

Ruth 3

Main Idea

The Lord is Sovereign to move, you are responsible to act.

Overview

- **Naomi puts a plan in place to work out her realization of 2.20**
 - Ruth is to get washed, put on perfume, and then put on a cloak
 - This is the same three things David does after mourning the loss of his son (2 Sam 12.20)
 - This process likely signals to Boaz the same: Ruth is done mourning, she is available to be redeemed
 - Naomi and Ruth are acting in faithfulness to the teaching of Gods word (Deut. 25.5-10)
 - Through their actions the Lord is Sovereignly working
- **Ruth does all that Naomi said (3.6), and requests that Boaz be her redeemer by marrying her (3.9)**
 - The spreading of the wings is the same language as Boaz used in 2.12 where Boaz said the Lord repay her
 - Ruth was asking Boaz to be the answer to his prayer, by him being the Lord's wings to her through his marrying and redeeming her
 - In redeeming Ruth: Boaz can extend the previously extinguished name of Elimelech/Mahlon
 - Levirate Marriage: Deut. 25.5-10
- **Boaz responds positively: Ruth was the Lord's "Hesed" (kindness) (3.10)**
 - Boaz recognized Ruth's action as something in keeping with the character of God
 - Indicating her actions were not some sort of lewd, sexual, or seductive sin
 - Boaz saw Ruth could have gone to someone else, but she chose to act to bring about redemption (3.10)
 - Ruth is seen as a worthy woman (3.11)
 - This indicates she is getting further into Gods people (as a Moabitess)
 - Also indicates she is on the same level as Boaz (2.1)
 - But: There is another redeemer closer in line than Boaz (3.12)
 - He is going to find out his interest in the morning (3.13)
- **Boaz provides more abundant food to Naomi (3.15, 17)**
 - This is what a Redeemer does (Eph. 1.7-10)

Questions

Discussion starter: Describe instances of Gods working through your acting.

1. How does Naomi's realization in 2.20 play into the plans she makes in Chapter 3? How does this inform what she wants to see done? (Deut. 25.5-10 & Lev. 25.25-28)
2. What does Ruth propose in 3.9?
3. What connection does her language have to Boaz's words and prayer in 2.12?
4. How does Boaz interpret her actions? (3.10)
5. How does Ruth model true faith in the one true God?
6. What does your trust have to do with God sovereignly acting? (Col. 1.29, 1 Cor. 15.10, Phil. 2.12-13)
7. Why does a lack of acting indicate a lack of trust in God's Sovereignty?
8. Boaz models again what a Redeemer is in giving her an abundance of barley, by protecting her character, by being willing to be the wings of God for her, by his valuing the Lord's kindness (*hesed*)...how do we see Christ in Boaz?
9. How can you trust Christ to do the same in your obedience?

Accountability Question: What promises of God do you not trust enough to act upon in faith?