

Lesson 9 November 13, 2024

Who IS That Woman?

Women in the Bible who got it right and those who didn't

Every Mother-In-Law's Dream

Ruth 1 - 4

1. During the dark period of the judges when the Israelites were in a cycle of sin, a famine struck Judah. A couple from Bethlehem named Elimelech and _____, took their two sons and fled to _____ - out of the promised land. The two sons married Moabite women. However, tragedy soon struck and Elimelech and his two sons died, leaving three grieving widows. After living in Moab for ten years, Naomi heard the famine was over, so she decided to return to Bethlehem accompanied by one of her daughters-in-law, _____ (Chapter 1).
2. Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem during the _____. Knowing they had no means of survival, Ruth asked Naomi for permission to find a field where she could glean from the grain the harvesters had left behind - a provision for the poor in the law of Moses - (Leviticus 19:9-10; 23:22; Deuteronomy 24:19-22). Providentially, yet unbeknownst to Ruth, she chose a field which belonged to a relative of Elimelech. His name was _____ (Chapter 2).
3. For their future to be secure, Naomi knew Ruth would need a _____ and Boaz seemed like the ideal candidate since he was a relative, and he had already shown interest in Ruth (3:1-2).
4. Naomi, however, was interested in _____ between Boaz and Ruth, so she devised a plan for Ruth to let Boaz know she was interested in a _____. Since Naomi knew Boaz would be at the threshing floor winnowing and guarding his grain that night, she told Ruth to get all _____ and go to the threshing floor after dark. Next Naomi told Ruth to sneak in, _____ after he went to sleep, and _____ at his feet. Then let him take the lead. Ruth understood the plan, got ready, and made her way to the threshing floor (vv. 2b-6).
5. After Boaz had finished his work and eaten dinner, he fell asleep. Ruth, as planned, quickly uncovered his feet and lay down. Around midnight, something startled Boaz and woke him up. Ruth immediately identified herself as his servant (_____) and asked him to "spread the corner of [his] garment over [her] since [he] was her kinsman-redeemer." It was a _____ (7-10).

6. While Boaz had been smitten by Ruth, he never dreamed that a young woman like her would be interested in an older man like him. After showering her with compliments, he voiced a _____ - there was another kinsman-redeemer, a _____ who would have first right of refusal. However, Boaz assured Ruth that if the other relative was not willing to redeem her, he would be thrilled to have her as his wife. True to his character, Boaz wanted to do this according to the law (*vv. 10-13*).

7. Ruth lay at Boaz's feet until morning. However, before she left, he gave her a _____. When she got home, Naomi was anxious to know how it went. Ruth filled her in and showed her the sack of barley Boaz had given them. Naomi confidently told Ruth to _____ because she was certain Boaz would do the right thing (*vv. 15-18*).

8. Without hesitation, Boaz went to the city gate where the elders transacted business, and providentially ran into the legal kinsman-redeemer. With the elders as his witnesses, Boaz explained the situation about buying Naomi's land. The nearer relative quickly _____. However, when Boaz added that a wife and fathering a son was part of the deal, the kinsman promptly _____ (*4:1-6*).

9. Forfeiting his rights to the land and to Ruth, the nearer of kin gave Boaz his _____ to formally close the contract (*vv. 7-8*).

10. In the presence of the elders and those around, Boaz joyfully proclaimed his intentions - to purchase the land, marry Ruth, and produce an heir for the family. The townspeople were thrilled to witness such a magnanimous decision and pronounced a _____ over Boaz, Ruth, and their future family (*vv. 9-12*).


11. True to his character, Boaz followed through on his commitment, and in time, the LORD blessed him and Ruth with a son. The women of the community rejoiced with Ruth and Naomi, praising the LORD and Ruth for her faithfulness to Naomi (*vv. 13-15*).


12. They named the baby Obed. Naomi, a woman who once had been a grieving widow filled with bitterness, was now filled with _____. This baby had touched a place in her heart that had never been touched before. Little did she know that God had even greater plans for this child. In time, Obed's heirs would include the greatest king of Israel, _____, and _____ (*vv. 18-22*).

What can I learn from Ruth?



Ruth 3:11 refers to Ruth as a _____ (woman of noble character). She is an excellent _____ for me to follow and the epitome of Colossians 3:12-15 "As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with


 _____,


 _____,

 _____,

 _____,

 _____,

 _____.

 Over all these virtues put on _____, which binds them all together.

 Let the _____ of Christ rule in your hearts ... and

 be _____."

HOMework

Song: _____ By: Rascal Flatts

Review: Review Ruth 1-4 and look for additional lessons you can learn from Ruth.

Read: 1 Samuel 1:1 – 2:11