



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
RUTH

a story of love, redemption, and faithfulness

The Book of Ruth... so far

Naomi's Prayer

Ruth 1:8-9

⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!”

Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

Boaz's Prayer

Ruth 2:11-12

¹¹But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹²The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”

The plot in action

Ninja Ruth

Ruth 3:7

⁷And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down.



The plot in action
**“There’s a chick at my
feet!”**

Ruth 3:8

⁸At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet!



The plot in action The ultimate DTR!

Ruth 3:9

⁹He said, “Who are you?”
And she answered, “I am
Ruth, your servant. Spread
your wings [1] over your
servant, for you are a
redeemer.”

[1] 3:9 Compare 2:12; the word for *wings*
can also mean *corners of a garment*



**The plot in action
And the answer is...**

Ruth 3:10

¹⁰And he said, “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich.

The plot in action

“ YES!!”

Ruth 3:11-12a

¹¹And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹²And now it is true that I am a redeemer.

The plot in action
“ But there is a problem...”

Ruth 3:12b-13

Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I.
¹³Remain tonight, and in the morning,
if he will redeem you, good; let him do
it. But if he is not willing to redeem
you, then, as the Lord lives, I will
redeem you. Lie down until the
morning.”

The Date at the Gate:
The Shrewdness of our man, Boaz!



Boaz: Man on a Mission!

Ruth 4:1

¹Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, “Turn aside, friend; sit down here.” And he turned aside and sat down.



“Can somebody give me witness!”

Ruth 4:2

²And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, “Sit down here.” So they sat down.



Let's make a deal - part 1

Ruth 4:3-4a

³Then he said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative



Elimelech. ⁴So I thought I would tell you of it and say, 'Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.' If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you."

*Okay, that didn't
work...*

Ruth 4:4b

And he said, "I will
redeem it."



Let's make a deal - part 2

Ruth 4:5

⁵Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.”



*“I have neither the time
nor the inclination to go
THAT far in this deal!”*

Ruth 4:6

⁶Then the redeemer said,
“I cannot redeem it for
myself, lest I impair my
own inheritance. Take my
right of redemption
yourself, for I cannot
redeem it.”



The dreaded sandal exchange...

Ruth 4:7-8

⁷Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel. ⁸So when the redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself,” he drew off his sandal.



“It’s a done deal!”

Ruth 4:9

⁹Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.



A close-up, profile view of a woman's head and neck, facing left. Her dark hair is pulled back, and her skin is fair. The background is plain white.

The real prize!

Ruth 4:10

¹⁰Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.”

The Elders Speak... and Bless Boaz

Ruth 4:11a

¹¹Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel.



The Elders Speak... and Bless Boaz

Ruth 4:11b-12

May you act
worthily in
Ephrathah and be
renowned in
Bethlehem,¹² and
may your house be
like the house of
Perez, whom Tamar
bore to Judah,
because of the
offspring that the
Lord will give you
by this young
woman.”



Reflections on this account:

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1. The Hessed of Boaz

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- 2. The shrewdness of Boaz**

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- 3. The Hessed of God**

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