

Oxford Baptist Church – Pastor Robin W. Pifer November 20, 2016
The Story Series – Chapter 9 – “The Faith of a Foreign Woman”

Reading this week: **The Story Chapter 9 and the Book of Ruth.**

Key Verses – Ruth 1:16; 3:11 Key Chapter 4 – Ruth moves from widowhood and poverty to marriage and security. Key Word: Kinsman Redeemer

The Book of Ruth divides neatly into four distinct settings: 1) The Country of Moab (1:1-18); 2) A Field in Bethlehem (1:19-2:23); 3) A Threshing Floor in Bethlehem (3:1-18); and (4) the Town of Bethlehem (4: 1-22).

1) Ruth’s Love and Faithfulness Demonstrated (1:1 – 2:23).

- Ruth Remains with Naomi (1:1-18).
- Ruth Cares for Naomi (1:19 -2:23).

2) Ruth’s Love and Faithfulness is Rewarded (3:1-4:22).

- Ruth’s Request for Redemption by Boaz (3:1-18).
 - Naomi Seeks Redemption for Ruth (v. 1-5).
 - Ruth Obeys Naomi (v. 6-9).
 - Boaz Desires to Redeem Ruth (3:10-18).
- Ruth’s Reward of Redemption by Boaz (4:1-22).
 - Boaz marries Ruth (4:1-12).
 - Ruth has Son, Obed (4:13-15).
 - Naomi Receives a New Family (4:16).
 - Ruth is the Great-grandmother of David (4:17-22).
 - Ruth, Boaz, Obed in the genealogy of Jesus (Matt 1).

Jesus Christ in Ruth – The concept of Kinsman-Redeemer or *goel* (3:9, close relative) is an important picture of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ in our lives. The Redeemer must be 1) related by blood to those he redeems (Deut 25:5, 7-10; John 1:14; Rom 1:3; Phil 2: 5-8; Heb 2:14-15; (2) Be able to pay the price for redemption (Ruth 2:1; 1Peter 1:18-19); (3) Be willing to redeem (Ruth 3:11; Matt 20:28; John 10:15, 18; Heb 10:7) and (4) Be Free Himself (Christ was free from the curse of sin). This shows the redeeming work of Jesus Christ.

What are the Spiritual Lessons or take a ways from this Message?

- When Faith and Righteousness are Demonstrated in a Secular Society God rewards and leads his people.
- Grief is not the end; The Grace of Christ is the new Beginning.
- Purity and Patience are rewarded by the Lord in Relationships.
- Every Woman wants a Boaz and every Man wants a Ruth. This book shows how men and women are to respect and love one another, Married or single.
- Faith and Obedience to Jesus Christ impacts people from all tribes and nations so people can live godly lives in a secular or ungodly society.



1. How does Ruth learn about the one true and living God?
2. What is the difference(s) between Ruth and Orpah toward God and Naomi? (see Ruth 1:8- 18)
3. Why does Naomi want the two women to go back? Why does Ruth not go back but joins her mother in law going to Bethlehem?
4. How does God use grief in our lives to impact our lives?
5. How does God’s grace turn their grief or tragedy into rejoicing?
6. Ruth left her home to care for Naomi and to follow the Lord. How is the Lord asking him to follow him?
7. In what way do Ruth’s actions and responses challenge you or encourage you?
8. When difficult times comes and they will, what lessons from this story will you apply to your situation?
9. What is one step you are going to take this week to become a more selfless and loving person?