



Ruth

The New American Standard Bible (NASB) has been used to prepare this Study. When a question instructs you to use your "study tools/helps", this means to use your personal concordance, dictionary or other resource.

Chapter 3

Looking Back:

Last week we saw the hand of the LORD lovingly directing Ruth to the fields of Boaz to glean. It's all a beautiful set-up from beginning to end. God has a wonderful plan in mind in which Ruth, Boaz and Naomi will all play a very important part.

Boaz has taken special notice of a Moabite woman who just "happened" to end up in his field. Of course, we know that it was no coincidence that she was there. As the story unfolds, it will become increasingly clear that the LORD has chosen her for something unbelievably sweet. Ruth is not a Hebrew woman. She has not known and served the LORD all of her life, but God must have seen something of tremendous value in her. Awesome.

As Boaz listened to the stories about Ruth's faithfulness to Naomi and as he observed her hard work, he was stirred to reach out to her. Boaz made sure that all of her needs were met. In the beginning, he assumed the role of her protector and her provider...for now. ☺

Looking Ahead:

Ruth is obviously impressed by the kind and generous way Boaz has been with her, but does she really understand what all of this could mean in the future? Does she even understand what a kinsman redeemer is? One thing is for sure, even *if* Ruth doesn't fully understand, we can be sure that Naomi does!

With this in mind, we will see Naomi take control of the situation and give Ruth detailed instruction of what must come next. The plan that is laid out is a bit sensitive and if Ruth fails to do ALL that Naomi tells her, the whole thing could fall apart! However, because the LORD is truly in all of this...that just won't happen. So, just in case you were starting to get a little nervous, RELAX! The LORD is truly in control, not Naomi, not Ruth, not even Boaz. Whew!!

This week's Memory verse is **Job 19:25**. Begin memorizing the verse(s) today.
Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you memorize this passage and for opportunities to apply it...

**"As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,
And at the last He will take His stand on the earth."
Job 19:25**

Write out **Job 19:25**: _____

Write this verse(s) on your index cards... keep one with you & post the other in a prominent place.

DAY ONE

Pray, then read *Ruth 3:1-2*

1. What was Naomi "seeking" for Ruth and why? (v.1) _____

Define: SECURITY _____

A. Naomi was speaking of the "security" that women could expect from a husband as the provider of the home. What can we learn from I Timothy 5:8? _____

"The word for security in v.1 is the same word for rest in Ruth 1:9, where Naomi hoped that her daughter-in-law would find rest and security in the home of a new husband. This Hebrew word (*manowach*) speaks of what a home should be – a place of rest and security." David Guzik

B. Naomi obviously loved Ruth and wanted things to "be well" with her (v.3b). According to Jeremiah 29:11, this is also God's heart toward His children. Write it here, personalizing it by inserting your name where applicable. _____

♥ Do you want things to "be well" with your children? Of course you do!! How much more does our Heavenly Father desire this for His children? Write a word of thanksgiving to Him that He is (even now) providing you and me with a future and a hope. _____

2. What does Naomi remind Ruth of in v.2a? _____

A. What new information does she make known to Ruth? (v.2b) _____

3. According to Leviticus 25:25, what was the main responsibility of a kinsman redeemer? _____

A. From Deuteronomy 25:5-10:

***What other responsibility does the kinsman redeemer have? (v.5) _____

***Whose name shall the firstborn bear? (v.6) _____

***What needed to be done **if** the brother refused to assume this role? (v.7-10) _____

"Now, under the Law because God sought to preserve families, if a man married a wife and died before they had any children, then it was his brother's obligation to take that woman as his wife so that the first son that was born would be named after the dead brother, so that the family's name would continue in Israel." Pastor Chuck Smith



Let's practice our memory verse: "As for _____, I _____ that my _____ lives, and at the last _____ will take His _____ on the _____." _____ :

🎵 Does a song come to mind? Sing it to the Lord!

DAY TWO

Pray, then read *Ruth 3:3-6*

1. How was Ruth instructed to prepare herself **before** going to the threshing floor? (v.3a) _____

A. According to Isaiah 61:10, in what way and by Whom are **we** "clothed" and "wrapped" and "adorned" in preparation to meet **our** bridegroom? _____

2. Once Ruth arrived at the threshing floor, what was she instructed NOT to do? (v.3b) _____

A. In v.4, Naomi goes on to say, "It shall be that when he lies down,
***you shall** _____,
*and **you shall** _____;
*then **he will** _____."

♥ This is an interesting scenario. Naomi tells Ruth what is expected of her, assuring her that if "you shall", then "he will". How often we neglect the "you shall" instructions of God and wonder why "He has not"?! Read and meditate on 2 Chronicles 7:14. Share your thoughts. _____

3. How much did Ruth agree to do? (v.5) _____

A. Ruth unquestionably had good intentions, but ultimately "the proof is in the pudding"! Did she prove to be a woman of her word? (v.6) Explain. _____



Time to practice Proverbs 19:25 _____

DAY THREE

Pray then read **Ruth 3:7-9**

1. When and where did Boaz lie down? (v.7) _____

A. What word describes the way in which Ruth "came" to Boaz? _____

1. After she came in "secretly", what did she do? _____

a. According to Ruth 3:4, has she been obedient to do ALL that Naomi asked of her? _____
If **we** are faithful to do those things that the Lord requires of us, what does that say about us? (John 14:15) _____

2. When did Boaz discover that a woman was lying at his feet? (v.8) _____

A. We can't be sure just how long Ruth had been lying there. Regardless, what caused Boaz to wake up? _____

Define: STARTLE _____

♥ Has the Lord ever "startled" you to awaken in the middle of the night because He wanted to reveal something to you? Share your experience with the other ladies in your group. _____

3. What did Boaz ask Ruth? (v.9) _____

A. Why do you think he failed to recognize her? _____

1. Record Ruth's reply, "I am _____ your _____. So _____ your _____
over your maid, for you are a _____."

"3:9 spread your covering over your maid. As a pledge that he would marry her. This expression is used of God's relation to Israel in Ezekiel 16:8. The reason for Ruth's request is that Boaz was a close relative (Hebrew, goel, redeemer)." Ryrie Study Bible



Without peeking, write out Job 19:25 speaking it out loud as you write: _____

Ask someone if you may share Job 19:25 with them. If you did... share with your group ☺

DAY FOUR

Pray then read **Ruth 3:10-13**

1. In v.10, Boaz says to Ruth, "You have shown your last kindness to be better than the first..."

***What was her first kindness? (Ruth 2:11) _____

***What was her last kindness? (Ruth 3:10b) _____

A. What does Ruth's last kindness appear to indicate regarding Boaz's age? _____

♥ Ruth chose to be obedient to what the LORD had for her "by not going after young men, whether poor or rich". How often we lean to our own understanding and/or desires and miss out on the beautiful plan that God has in store for us **if** we will just surrender to His will and not our own. Something to think about.

2. What comforting words does Boaz speak to Ruth in v.11a? _____

A. What did the people of the city "know" about her? (v.11b) _____

Define: EXCELLENCE _____

1. By definition, excellence is perfection. According to James 1:4, why does God allow trials in the life of the believer? _____

3. How might this desired arrangement be complicated? (v.12) _____

4. What were Boaz's final words to Ruth that night? (v.13) _____

A. What does this reveal to you about Boaz's character? _____



Time to practice Proverbs 19:25 _____

DAY FIVE

Pray then read **Ruth 3:14-18**

1. It now becomes evident as to why Boaz told Ruth to "lie down until morning". Why was this so important? (v.14) _____

"Let it not be known that a woman came into the floor, and lay all night so near to Boaz; for, though they needed not to care much what people said of them while they were both conscious to themselves of an unspotted purity, yet, because few could have come so near the fire as they did and not have been scorched, had it been known it would have occasioned suspicions in some and reflections from others. Good people would have been troubled, and bad people would have triumphed, and therefore *let it not be known*. Note, We must always take care, not only to keep a good conscience, but to keep a good name: either we must not do that which, though innocent, is liable to be misinterpreted, or, if we do, we must not *let it be known*. We must avoid not only sin, but scandal. There was likewise a particular reason for concealment here. If this matter should take wind, it might prejudice the freedom of the other kinsman's choice, and he would make this his reason for refusing Ruth, that Boaz and she had been together." Matthew Henry

2. Before Ruth leaves the threshing floor, what does Boaz do for her? (v.15) _____

A. Using your study helps, what would six measures of barley equal? _____

3. Imagine how excited Naomi must have been as she anxiously awaited Ruth's return home. What did she immediately want to know? (v.16) _____

A. As well as an explanation of "all that the man had done for her", what was the evidence of how well things had gone? (v.17) _____

1. Boaz was not just speaking promises, but he showed his sincerity through generosity.

What do these verses tell us about the generous man?

*Proverbs 19:17 _____

*Proverbs 22:9 _____

4. Oh No!! The dreaded four-letter word that nobody wants to hear!! (v.18) Then she said, " _____, my daughter,"

Define:WAIT _____

A. We are all called to "wait" upon the Lord...sometimes for a short period of time and sometimes for an extended period. Regardless, **how** are we exhorted to wait for the Lord in Psalm 40:1 _____

B. In Ruth's case, the wait would not be long. What was Naomi confident of? (v.18b) _____

♥The Lord (our Kinsman Redeemer) has taken all the necessary steps to secure His bride. Our job is to wait **patiently** for His return. Ruth didn't know how the matter would turn out (Ruth 3:18), but we do!! Take a minute to praise and thank Him!



Perfect segue to practice & write out your memory verse: _____

*"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come'.
And let the one who hears say, 'Come'.
And let the one who is thirsty come;
Let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost."
Revelation 22:17*

