

A woman wearing a blue headscarf and a blue long-sleeved top is shown from the side, harvesting wheat in a field. The field is filled with bright yellow flowers in the foreground and wheat stalks. The background is a bright, hazy yellow sky. The title 'THE BOOK OF RUTH' is overlaid on the image in large, white, serif font. 'THE BOOK OF' is written vertically on the left side of the 'R', and 'RUTH' is written horizontally across the top. The woman is positioned in the center, partially obscured by the large letters.

*THE BOOK OF*  
**RUTH**

*JOSHUA DIGGS*



*THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO:*

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*A devoted follower of Jesus*

# INDEX

SPRING - 2026



# *WELCOME TO THE* **BOOK OF RUTH**

Ruth is the Cinderella story of the Bible.

Whether you're single, dating, married, or single again, this little book is packed with practical wisdom for becoming the right person in any relationship.

Inside this 5-week journal, you'll find sermon notes, group discussion guides, and a daily reading plan to keep you grounded in God's Word throughout the week.

I believe our time in Ruth will show us how God wants to work in our relationships, guiding us through loss and love to leave a beautiful legacy.

I'm excited to walk through this with you.



Joshua Diggs  
Teaching Minister

# RUTH FACTS SHEET

## ***BIG IDEA***

God is always working behind the scenes. Through everyday choices, He guides our lives through loss, leads us in love, and builds a legacy bigger than we can see.

## ***AUTHOR: Unknown***

Jewish tradition often attributes it to Samuel, but the text does not name an author.

## ***AUDIENCE: The Israelites***

Originally written to the people of Israel to show God's faithfulness and how He works through ordinary lives and unlikely people.

## ***DATE WRITTEN: 1050-970 BC***

## ***TIME PERIOD: The Judges***

Takes place during the time of the Judges, a spiritually chaotic era marked by the phrase, "everyone did what was right in their own eyes" (Judges 21:25). It was a time of instability, moral drift, and repeated cycles of rebellion and rescue.

## ***FUN FACTS***

- Ruth is one of only two books in the Bible named after a woman (the other is Esther).
- Ruth is one of the only four women listed in the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).
- Boaz's mother, Rahab, is another woman listed in the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).
- Ruth's name likely means "friend" or "companion".
- Ruth's words, "Where you go, I will go..." (Ruth 1:16), are often used in weddings to express commitment.



# MAP



# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE BOOK OF RUTH

## *SUNDAY TEACHING*

Commit to attend worship every Sunday at 9AM or 11:15AM during the series. Bring this journal with you to fill in your blanks.

## *SMALL GROUP*

Join your small group each week (or start a new one) to discuss what God is showing you and how to put it into practice.

## *BIBLE JOURNAL DAILY*

Take 10-minutes every Monday-Friday to read through the 25-day Bible reading plan. Our goal is to soak up the book by reading it once through each week. Use the S.O.A.P. method to get the most out of it.

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## *6 BIBLE STUDY TIPS*

01. Schedule your reading. Pick a time and distraction-free place to be with God every day.

02. Pray before you read. Ask God to reveal His truths as you read.

03. Read with a Bible concordance. A Bible concordance is a list of Biblical words sorted alphabetically, with scriptures that include that word.

We recommend “The New Strong’s Expanded Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible”.

04. Read with a Bible commentary. Commentary Bibles allow us to gain a Bible scholar’s perspective on the scripture you are reading.

We recommend the “New Bible Commentary, 21st Century Edition”, Edited By: Gordon J. Wenham, J.A. Motyer, D.A. Carson, R.T. France.

05. Read with a friend. Read with someone that will hold you accountable to your daily reading.

06. Share what you are learning. Don’t just read it! Share how God’s word is speaking to you!

# HOW TO S.O.A.P.

Items needed for each day:

- Bible
- Pencil
- Journal

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Which verse stood out to you?

## *S - SCRIPTURE*

Open your Bible to your reading for the day. Take time reading and allow God to speak to you. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you that day, and write it in your journal.

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What is God saying to you?

## *O - OBSERVATION*

What do you feel God is saying to you in this scripture? Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you.

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How can you apply it today?

## *A - APPLICATION*

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, a new promise, or corrections for a particular area of your life. Write how this scripture can apply to you today.

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Ask God to help you use what you've learned.

## *P - PRAYER*

This can be as simple as asking God to help you use this scripture, or even a prayer for a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out.

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## ***BETHLEHEM***

Town in Judah. Home of Naomi. Its name means “House of Bread”.

## ***BOAZ***

Wealthy landowner; Naomi’s relative and righteous kinsman-redeemer.

## ***CITY GATE***

Public place for business and legal matters.

## ***COVENANT LOYALTY (HESED)***

Key word in the book of Ruth. It refers to faithful, steadfast, loyal love.

## ***ELIMELECH***

Naomi’s husband; name means “my God is King”.

## ***GLEANNING***

Gathering leftover crops after the harvest.

## ***HARVEST***

Season of gathering grain.

## ***JUDGES (PERIOD)***

Time of chaos before Israel’s kings.

## ***GUARDIAN-REDEEMER***

Family redeemer with the legal right to marry; who restores and rescues.

## ***MAHLON AND CHILION***

Naomi’s sons who married Ruth and Orpah. They died in Moab.

## ***MOAB***

Pagan nation east of Dead Sea. God forbid the Israelites from moving to or marrying the Moabites.

## ***NAOMI***

Widow and Ruth’s mother-in-law. Her name means “pleasant”.

## ***ORPAH***

Ruth’s sister-in-law who stayed in Moab.

## ***REDEEM / REDEEMER***

To buy back, restore, or rescue.

## ***RUTH***

Namesake of the book. A Moabite widow; loyal, faithful companion.

## ***SANDALS (CUSTOM)***

Used as a legal symbol of transferring property rights.

## ***THRESHING FLOOR***

Place of separating grain from chaff.

## ***WINGS (OF GOD)***

Symbol of God’s protection and care.

A woman in a black coat stands in a field of white flowers and greenery, holding a bouquet of flowers. The scene is set against a bright, sunny background. The text is overlaid on the image.

# WEEK 1

*Swipe Left on Moab*

# PT. 1: SWIPE LEFT ON MOAB

## RUTH 1:1, 4-5

<sup>1</sup> In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab.

<sup>4</sup> They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

## KEY LOCATIONS



## MEET THE FAMILY

- Elimelech: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- Naomi: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- Mahlon: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- Kilion: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

**DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ TO MOAB**

- Everyone has a Moab - a place God says is off-limits.
- How do you get to Moab? One step at a time.
- Truth: Others will follow where you go.
- *They [his sons] married Moabite women...* (Ruth 1:4a)
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GRACE COMES TO MOAB**

- *Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of His people by providing food for them...* (Ruth 1:6a)
- God's good news can find you in your bad situation.
- God is inviting you to "Come \_\_\_\_\_."
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THE CHOICE**

- Orpah went "*back to her people and her gods.*" (Ruth 1:15)
- Ruth: "*Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.*" (Ruth 1:16)
- Question: Will you stay in Moab or come \_\_\_\_\_?
- Repentance means to "turn around".
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# PT. 1: GROUP GUIDE

## **THEME:**

Everyone has the choice to stay in Moab, a place God says is off-limits, or come home.

## **SCRIPTURE:**

Ruth 1:1-22



## **ICE-BREAKER**

1. What's a decision you made that seemed smart at the time, but later you realized it cost you more than you expected?
2. If "Moab" were a modern place, app, habit, or relationship, what might it look like in today's world?



## **REFLECT (Read Ruth 1:1-22 together)**

3. Elimelek chose to leave Bethlehem (the "house of bread") for Moab during a famine (Ruth 1:1-2). Why do we tend to run from hard situations instead of seeking God in them?
4. God had warned His people about Moab (Deuteronomy 23:3-6). What does Elimelek's decision, and lack of seeking God, teach us about how subtle compromise begins (Ruth 1:1-2)?
5. Naomi ends up empty and bitter, saying, "The Lord has dealt bitterly with me" (Ruth 1:20-21). Why is it so easy to blame God for outcomes that began with our own choices?

6. Even in tragedy, God is working. Naomi “heard” that the Lord had provided food again (Ruth 1:6). How do you see God’s grace pursuing people even when they’ve wandered?



### **TAKE ACTION**

7. Josh described “Moab” as anything that pulls you away from God’s presence and people. What is one “Moab” some may be tempted to drift toward? (1 Corinthians 10:12–13)
8. Elimelek didn’t pray. He packed. What are some practical ways you would counsel someone else to slow down and seek God before making a big decision? (James 1:5; Proverbs 3:5–6)
9. Orpah chose what was familiar, but Ruth chose what was faithful (Ruth 1:14–17). Where in your life do you feel the tension between familiar and faithful right now?
10. Elimelek’s decision affected his entire family (Ruth 1:3–5). Who are the people and groups your choices influence? How can this group help to positively influence you? (Joshua 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:33)



### **CLOSING CHALLENGES**

- Practice: Identify one area of your life that may be drifting toward “Moab.” Take one intentional step this week to move back toward God’s presence and God’s people.
- Prayer: Pray for the courage to choose what is faithful over what is familiar, and for a heart that responds quickly when God says, “Come home.”

*Day 01*

**RUTH 1:1-22**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**

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**O - OBSERVATION**

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**A - APPLICATION**

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**P - PRAYER**

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**Day 02****RUTH 2:1-23****GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**


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**O - OBSERVATION**


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**A - APPLICATION**


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**P - PRAYER**


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# Day 03

# RUTH 3:1-18

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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### O - OBSERVATION

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### P - PRAYER

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**Day 04****RUTH 4:1-22****GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**


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**O - OBSERVATION**


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**A - APPLICATION**


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**P - PRAYER**


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# Day 5

# MEMORIZE

## *EVERY FRIDAY...*

Review your week's reading.  
Choose one verse that stood  
out to memorize.

*I WILL MEMORIZE:* \_\_\_\_\_

## *WHY IT STANDS OUT TO ME*

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## *WRITE IT DOWN*

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# WEEK 2

## *Five Traits of a Godly Wife*



# PT. 2: FIVE TRAITS OF A GODLY WIFE

## SCRIPTURE: RUTH 2

**MAIN POINT:** Godly wives are first godly women.

### FIVE TRAITS OF A GODLY WIFE

1. \_\_\_\_\_ God

- *“Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.”* (Ruth 2:4)
- Trusting God is not believing everything is okay or that you’ll get everything you want.
- Trusting God is believing He’ll give you everything you need.
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

- *“She came into the field and has remained here from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter.”* (Ruth 2:7)
- *“So Ruth gleaned in the field until evening. Then she threshed the barley she had gathered...”* (Ruth 2:17)
- Hardship in marriage is inevitable.
- A woman who has faced struggles before marriage will be able to face the struggles in marriage.
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

- *“My daughter, listen to me...”* (Ruth 2:8a)
- *At this, she bowed down...* (Ruth 2:10a)
- *The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.* (Proverbs 12:15)
- Teachable = Wise.
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

- *She asked him, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?”* (Ruth 2:10b)
- Gratitude is a sign of spiritual maturity.
- *Every good and perfect gift is from above...* (James 1:17)
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. \_\_\_\_\_

- *“Ruth also brought out and gave her [Naomi] what she had left over after she had eaten enough.”* (Ruth 2:18)
- Godly women pay attention to other’s needs.
- *... not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.* (Philippians 2:4)
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# PT. 2: GROUP GUIDE

## **THEME:**

Before becoming a godly spouse, we are called to become godly people. Godly relationships are built on godly character.

## **SCRIPTURE:**

Ruth 2:1-23



## **ICE-BREAKER**

1. Take a minute to share the passage(s) you have been memorizing during your daily reading and journaling on Friday.
2. Who is one woman you admire and why? What stands out about how she lives? Or if you had to pick one quality that makes someone great to build a life with, what would it be and why?



## **REFLECT (Read Ruth 2:1-23 together)**

3. Josh emphasized becoming the kind of person you are looking for. Why is it important to focus on who you are becoming instead of only what you want in someone else? (Galatians 6:4)
4. Ruth steps out to glean and trust God for provision. (Ruth 2:2) What does her example teach us about how faith shows up in everyday decisions?
5. The six traits include trusting God, being tough, teachable, thankful, thoughtful, and temperate (sexually pure). Which of these is most valuable to you in a relationship right now and why? (2 Peter 1:5-7)

- Ruth trusted that she would find favor, and God provided through ordinary means. (Ruth 2:3; James 1:17) How does this shape your understanding of expressing faith in God in your life?



### **TAKE ACTION**

- Ruth shows strength by working hard without complaining. (Ruth 2:7, 17) How common is biblical toughness found in our culture? Is there an area where you need to grow in resilience in your current season?
- Ruth was teachable and listened to wise instruction. (Ruth 2:8–9) Who have you given permission to speak into your life? (Proverbs 12:15) What is one practical way you can become more teachable this week?
- Ruth chose character over comfort by staying in safe and wise environments (Ruth 2:22–23). What is one area where you need to set better boundaries or exercise self-control? (1 Thessalonians 4:3–5)
- Ruth was thoughtful. She thought of Naomi and brought provision back to her (Ruth 2:18). Who is a thoughtful person you know? How can you grow to be more like him/her this week? (Philippians 2:4)



### **CLOSING CHALLENGES**

- Practice: If you're married, ask your spouse which trait you can grow in. If you're single, choose one and intentionally practice it every day this week. Track your progress and reflect on how God is growing you.
- Prayer: Pray that God would shape your character to reflect His heart. Ask Him to grow you into the kind of person who builds strong, godly relationships.

# Day 06

# RUTH 1:1-22

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

### S - SCRIPTURE

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### O - OBSERVATION

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### A - APPLICATION

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### P - PRAYER

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# Day 07

# RUTH 2:1-23

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

### S - SCRIPTURE

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### P - PRAYER

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# Day 08

# RUTH 3:1-18

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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### P - PRAYER

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*Day 09*

**RUTH 4:1-22**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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**O - OBSERVATION**

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**P - PRAYER**

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# Day 10

# MEMORIZE

## EVERY FRIDAY...

Review your week's reading.  
Choose one verse that stood  
out to memorize.

*I WILL MEMORIZE:* \_\_\_\_\_

## WHY IT STANDS OUT TO ME

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## WRITE IT DOWN

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A woman in a white dress stands in a field of white flowers, holding a bouquet. The scene is set against a clear blue sky. The image is framed by a decorative border of white flowers and greenery at the top and bottom.

# WEEK 3

*Five Traits of a  
Godly Husband*

# PT. 3: FIVE TRAITS OF A GODLY HUSBAND

## SCRIPTURE: RUTH 2

**MAIN POINT:** Godly husbands are first godly men.

### FIVE TRAITS OF A GODLY HUSBAND

1. \_\_\_\_\_ God
  - “The LORD be with you!” (Ruth 2:4)
  - “Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.” (Matthew 12:34)
  - Every husband’s primary role is to pursue Jesus.
  - **Three ways to pursue God:**
    - 1) Start your day with God before your \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2) Build a weekly “\_\_\_\_\_” habit.
    - 3) Get accountability with one godly \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boaz asked...“Who does that young woman belong to?” (Ruth 2:5)
  - Adam, the first man, was passive and the world fell into sin. Passivity delays decisions, and causes men to drift through life.
  - Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

- *“Stay here... whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.” “... Have some bread...”*  
*“Let her gather among the sheaves... pull out some stalks for her from the bundles...”* (Ruth 2:8, 9, 14, 15)
- Ephah of grain (v. 17) is about 30 lb. or two weeks wage.
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

- *“I have told the men not to lay a hand on you.”* (Ruth 2:8-9)
- Godly men stand between danger and their families.
- **Three ways to protect your family:**
  - 1) Protect them \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) Protect them \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3) Protect them \_\_\_\_\_
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

- Pastor = Shepherd | Pastor ≠ Controlling
- *“The LORD be with you!”* *“Stay here...”* (Ruth 2:4, 8)
- *“You have comforted me and spoken kindly!”* (Ruth 2:13)
- You don’t have to be perfect to be a pastor. You just have to decide to go first.
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# PT. 3: GROUP GUIDE

## ***THEME:***

Godly husbands are not formed overnight. They are first shaped by pursuing God and becoming godly men.

## ***SCRIPTURE:***

Ruth 2:1-23



## ***ICE-BREAKER***

1. Take a minute to share the passage(s) you have been memorizing during your daily reading and journaling on Fridays.
2. Who is one man you respect and why? What stands out about how he lives? Alternatively, if you had to describe a “godly man” in one word, what would it be and why?



## ***REFLECT (Read Ruth 2:1-23 together)***

3. Josh emphasized that you become a godly man before you become a godly husband. Why is personal character more important than relationship status? (Luke 16:10)
4. Boaz’s first words point to the Lord (Ruth 2:4). What does this reveal about his heart and priorities? How does what we say reflect what is inside us? (Matthew 12:34)
5. Passivity is a major struggle for men. Where do you see passivity show up in today’s culture, and why is it so dangerous? (James 4:17)

6. Boaz's life reflects a man shaped by God's presence. How does pursuing God first influence every other role a man has? (Matthew 6:33)



### **TAKE ACTION**

7. Boaz pursued God consistently. What is one practical step you can take to prioritize your relationship with God this week? (Psalm 1:1–2)
8. Boaz was proactive and took initiative instead of waiting. Where in your life do you need to stop waiting and start taking responsibility or action? (James 4:17)
9. Boaz provided and created safety for others. (Ruth 2:8–9, 14–16) In what ways can you better care for and support the people God has placed in your life, whether emotionally, spiritually, or practically? (Galatians 6:2)
10. Boaz set the tone for those around him through his leadership and character. (Ruth 2:4) How can your example influence the culture of your home, workplace, or friendships this week? (Matthew 5:16)



### **CLOSING CHALLENGES**

- Practice: If you're married, ask your spouse which trait you can grow in. If you're single, choose one of the five traits and intentionally practice it this week.
- Prayer: Pray for the men in your group and church to become godly leaders who pursue Jesus and lead with strength, humility, and love.

*Day 11*

**RUTH 1:1-22**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**

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**O - OBSERVATION**

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**A - APPLICATION**

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**P - PRAYER**

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**Day 12****RUTH 2:1-23****GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**


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**O - OBSERVATION**


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**A - APPLICATION**


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**P - PRAYER**


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# Day 13

# RUTH 3:1-18

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

### S - SCRIPTURE

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### O - OBSERVATION

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### P - PRAYER

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*Day 14*

**RUTH 4:1-22**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**

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**O - OBSERVATION**

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**A - APPLICATION**

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**P - PRAYER**

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# Day 15

# MEMORIZE

## *EVERY FRIDAY...*

Review your week's reading.  
Choose one verse that stood  
out to memorize.

*I WILL MEMORIZE:* \_\_\_\_\_

## *WHY IT STANDS OUT TO ME*

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## *WRITE IT DOWN*

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A woman in a black coat stands in a field of white flowers and greenery, holding a bouquet of flowers. The scene is set against a bright, hazy background. The text is overlaid on the image.

# WEEK 4

*What Happens  
at Midnight*

# PT. 4: WHAT HAPPENS AT MIDNIGHT

## SCRIPTURE: RUTH 3

**MAIN POINT:** What you do in the \_\_\_\_\_ determines your \_\_\_\_\_.

### NAOMI'S ADVICE (V. 1-9a)

> Terms:

- A home (v.1): Refers to the safety and joy found in marriage.
- Threshing floor (v.2): Place of separating grain from chaff.
- Winnowing (v.2): Using the wind to separate grain and chaff.

> Ruth's period of mourning is over:

- *"Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes."* (Ruth 3:3)
- *[King David] got up from the ground... washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes...* (2 Samuel 12:20)

> The plan:

- *"...go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him [Boaz] know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do."* (Ruth 3:3b-4)

> Truth: Good \_\_\_\_\_ ≠ Good \_\_\_\_\_

- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### THREE STEPS FOR REGRET-FREE DATING DECISIONS

1. Define the \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Decide your actions (what you will do and will not do) and your environments (where you will and will not go).
  - Clear boundaries don't limit love. They protect it.
2. Don't play \_\_\_\_\_ before you're married.
  - God's design: commitment before intimacy.
3. Ask for \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - *Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.* (Proverbs 15:22)
  - Ask for input, not just approval.
  - Give them permission to ask real questions.

### BOAZ'S DECISION (V. 9b-18)

- *"Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family."* (v. 9b)
- "Corner" (kānāp̄) also means "wings". (See Ruth 2:12)
- "Guardian-Redeemer": Male relative with the legal right to marry a widow to protect her, and restore her future.
- *"...don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask."* (v.11)
- *"Don't go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed."* (v.17)
- Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### JESUS, THE TRUE GUARDIAN-REDEEMER

- He \_\_\_\_\_ us, \_\_\_\_\_ us, and \_\_\_\_\_ our future.

# PT. 4: GROUP GUIDE

## **THEME:**

What you do in the dark determines what God does in your future. Private decisions shape public outcomes.

## **SCRIPTURE:**

Ruth 3:1-18



## **ICE-BREAKER**

1. Take a minute to share the passage(s) you have been memorizing during your daily reading and journaling on Fridays.
2. If your late-night decisions had a theme song, what would it be?



## **REFLECT (Read Ruth 3:1-18 together)**

3. The big idea is that what happens in the dark shapes the future. Why do private decisions carry so much weight in shaping who we become? (Luke 8:17)
4. Naomi gave Ruth advice that had good intentions but created a risky situation. (Ruth 3:1–4) What does this teach us about the importance of wise counsel? (Proverbs 13:20)
5. Ruth and Boaz are placed in a compromising situation at night. (Ruth 3:8–9) Why is it often true that we do not fall into sin but step into situations that make sin easier? (1 Corinthians 10:12)

6. God is at work in this story, but that does not mean every decision was wise. Why is it dangerous to assume that God will fix or bless choices that go against wisdom? (Proverbs 14:12)



### **TAKE ACTION**

7. Boaz chose honor when no one was watching (Ruth 3:10–11). What are some practical ways a person can build integrity in their private life before they are tested? (Psalm 101:2)
8. Josh emphasized avoiding situations that make sin easy. What are some wise boundaries people can put in place to avoid unnecessary temptation? What are unwise ones? (2 Timothy 2:22)
9. Naomi's advice created a risky and unnecessary situation. (Ruth 3:1–4) What are some common pieces of advice in our culture that sound good but can lead people in the wrong direction?
10. This moment in Ruth 3 ultimately affects generations beyond them. How do everyday decisions, even small or unseen ones, shape the direction of a family or community over time? (Galatians 6:7–9)



### **CLOSING CHALLENGES**

- Practice: Identify one area of your life where you need stronger integrity or better boundaries. Take one clear step this week to align your private life with your public faith.
- Prayer: Pray for strength to choose what is right when no one is watching and for wisdom to avoid situations that lead to compromise.

# Day 16

# RUTH 1:1-22

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

### S - SCRIPTURE

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### O - OBSERVATION

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### A - APPLICATION

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### P - PRAYER

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*Day 17*

**RUTH 2:1-23**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**

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**P - PRAYER**

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*Day 18*

**RUTH 3:1-18**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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**P - PRAYER**

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*Day 19***RUTH 4:1-22****GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

**S - SCRIPTURE**


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**O - OBSERVATION**


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**P - PRAYER**


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# Day 20

# MEMORIZE

**EVERY FRIDAY...**

Review your week's reading.  
Choose one verse that stood  
out to memorize.

**I WILL MEMORIZE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WHY IT STANDS OUT TO ME**

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**WRITE IT DOWN**

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# WEEK 5

*His Hand  
is in the Plan*



# PT. 5: HIS HAND IS IN THE PLAN

## SCRIPTURE: RUTH 4

**MAIN POINT:** What looks like coincidence is often God’s providence, and what looks like an ending may be a beginning.

### THE GATE (V. 1-6)

- > The gate is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the town life.
  - *Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat down there...* (Ruth 4:1a)
- > God is always at work.
  - *...[Boaz sat down] just as the guardian-redeemer he had mentioned came along.* (Ruth 4:1b)
- > The guy was the closer guardian-redeemer.
  - *“Naomi... is selling the land... I thought I should bring the matter to your attention...” “I’ll redeem it.”* (Ruth 4:3-4)
  - “Guardian-Redeemer”: Male relative with the legal right to marry a widow to protect her, and restore her future.
  - Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### THE SANDAL (V. 7-8)

- > The sandal symbolized \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *...the guardian-redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it yourself.” And he removed his sandal.* (Ruth 4:8)
  - See Leviticus 25:25 and Deuteronomy 25:5-10.
  - Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THE DIFFERENCE (V.9-11a)**

	The Other Guy	Boaz	Jesus
Required			
Resources			
Response			
Why?			

**THE TWO BLESSINGS (V. 11-12)**

- > 1st blessing: “May Ruth have many children like Rachel and Leah who were the mothers of Israel’s 12 tribes.” (Genesis 29-35)
- > 2nd blessing: “May God bring \_\_\_\_\_ out of brokenness like He did for Perez’s family.” (Genesis 38)

**THE BABY (V. 13-16)**

- > Ruth goes from barren to mother. (v.13)
- > Naomi goes from empty to \_\_\_\_\_
  - *Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him.* (v.16)

**THE NAMES (V. 17)**

- > Obed means “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- > Jesse means “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- > David means “\_\_\_\_\_.”

**> POINT TO JESUS**

# PT. 5: GROUP GUIDE

**THEME:**

God is sovereign in every situation.

**SCRIPTURE:**

Ruth 4:1-22



**ICE-BREAKER**

1. Take a minute to share the passage(s) you have been memorizing during your daily reading and journaling on Fridays.
2. If your life story had a title right now, what would it be?



**REFLECT (Read Ruth 4:1-22 together)**

3. It is only at the end of Ruth that we can look back and see how all the “coincidences” were actually God’s providence at work. Read the following passages: Ruth 1:1, 1:6, 1:22, 2:3, 2:4, 4:1 and 6, and 4:13. What stands out to you about how God was working behind the scenes?
4. God sometimes works through His visible hand of miracles and other times through His invisible hand of providence, where things “just happen.” Where do you tend to look for God more, in the obvious and miraculous or in the ordinary and unseen? Why?
5. “Coincidences” are when God chooses to stay anonymous. What are some ways we can become more aware of God’s hand in everyday life? (Proverbs 3:5–6)

6. By the end of Ruth 4, we see that this story leads to King David and ultimately to Jesus. What does this reveal about the scale of what God can do behind the scenes? (Ephesians 3:20)



### **TAKE ACTION**

7. Even without hearing directly from God, Boaz acts decisively and wisely. What are some ways people can seek God's guidance when making decisions without clear direction? (James 1:5)
8. Boaz stepped in to redeem Ruth when it was costly. What are some ways people can grow in choosing responsibility and love over comfort and self-protection? (Philippians 2:3–5)
9. Boaz is a picture of Jesus, who chose to redeem us at great cost. How does seeing yourself in Ruth's position change the way you understand grace and redemption? (Ephesians 1:7)
10. How can this group live in a way that points others to Jesus as the true Redeemer and helps build a lasting, godly legacy? (Matthew 5:16)



### **CLOSING CHALLENGES**

- Practice: Each day this week, look for one moment that might seem like coincidence and pause to thank God for His unseen hand at work.
- Prayer: Thank God for being your Redeemer. Ask Him to help you trust His plan, even when you cannot see what He is doing, and to use your life as part of His bigger story.

# Day 21

# RUTH 1:1-22

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

### S - SCRIPTURE

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### O - OBSERVATION

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### A - APPLICATION

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### P - PRAYER

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# Day 22

# RUTH 2:1-23

## GO DEEPER

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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*Day 23*

**RUTH 3:1-18**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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*Day 24*

**RUTH 4:1-22**

**GO DEEPER**

Read this chapter from a different Bible translation each week to gain new insight.

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**P - PRAYER**

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# Day 5

# MEMORIZE

## *EVERY FRIDAY...*

Review your week's reading.  
Choose one verse that stood  
out to memorize.

**I WILL MEMORIZE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **WHY IT STANDS OUT TO ME**

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## **WRITE IT DOWN**

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# NOTES

*Personal*















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