

The Book of Ruth — 6
Better Than You Can Imagine

Chapter 1: Ruth experiences heartbreak, loss, and pain.

Chapter 2: Ruth works, waits, and serves.

Chapter 3: Ruth initiates, surrenders, and trusts.

Chapter 4: Ruth is redeemed, restored, and rejoicing.

... “May the LORD make [Ruth] like Rachel and Leah, from whom all the nation of Israel descended! May you prosper ... and be famous in Bethlehem.” Ruth 4:11 NLT

So Boaz took Ruth into his home, and she became his wife. When he slept with her, the LORD enabled her to become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son. Ruth 4:13 NLT

- **The LORD *enabled* (NIV)**
- **The LORD *gave* (ESV)**
- **The LORD *granted* (CSB)**
- **The LORD *blessed* (GNT)**

God is able.

Now to [God] who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us ... Ephesians 3:20 NIV

What Does God Do?

- A—Answers your prayers.**
- B—Blesses you abundantly.**
- C—Comforts you when you’re hurting.**
- D—Delivers you from evil.**
- E—Empowers you to do His will.**
- F—Forgives all your sins.**
- G—Gives you your daily bread.**
- H—Heals you when you’re sick.**
- I—Illuminates your path.**
- J—Justifies you by His grace.**
- K—Keeps you from stumbling.**
- L—Loves you no matter what.**
- M—Moves your mountains.**
- N—Never leaves or forsakes you.**
- O—Overcomes your enemies.**
- P—Provides for all your needs.**
- Q—Quiets your darkest fears.**
- R—Restores what you lost.**
- S—Strengthens you when you’re weak.**
- T—Transforms your life.**
- U—Understands your pain.**
- V—Vanquishes your darkness.**
- W—Works all things for your good.**
- X—eXtends you grace.**
- Y—Yearns for all of your heart.**
- Z—Zealously pursues you.**

Then the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the LORD, who has now provided a redeemer for your family! May this child be famous in Israel. ¹⁵May he restore your youth and care for you in your old age. For he is the son of your daughter-in-law who loves you and has been better to you than seven sons!" Ruth 4:14-15 NLT

The neighbor women said, "Now at last Naomi has a son again!" And they named him Obed. He became the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David. Ruth 4:17 NLT

The Providence of God: when God uses natural circumstances to bring about His supernatural will

Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. ... ¹²In those days you were living apart from Christ. ... You lived in this world without God and without hope. ¹³But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. ... ¹⁹So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Ephesians 2:11-13, 19 NLT

TALK IT OVER

Read **Ephesians 3:20**. How are you needing God to move in your life right now? What would it look like for Him to do "immeasurably more" than what you're hoping for?

As you consider Ruth's story, do you think she knew she was living in the providence of God as it was happening, or do you think it was something she saw as she looked back on her life? What would it look like to see the providence of God in your life today?

Share about a time in your life when you thought you had a specific plan, but you experienced God's plan instead. How was His plan better than what you could have expected?

Start the *Reset Your Life: Wisdom From the Book of Ruth* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/ruth