

Session 7: The Story of Boaz

Session Summary: This session explores the book of Ruth as a story of everyday courageous faith lived out in ordinary circumstances. While Ruth and Boaz were not major historical figures like Abraham or Moses, their faithful obedience to God in simple, daily decisions made them part of the most significant family line in history—the lineage of Jesus Christ. The session emphasizes that courageous faith isn't always about grand gestures or dramatic events, but about consistently choosing righteousness when the world around us doesn't require it. Set during the time of the judges when "everyone did what was right in their own eyes," Ruth and Boaz stood out by their godly living. The story parallels our own need for redemption, with Boaz serving as a picture of Jesus, our kinsman redeemer who provides, protects, and brings us into His family. The session challenges believers to exercise everyday courage by providing for others, stepping into risky situations God calls them to, living righteously even when no one would judge them for doing wrong, and patiently waiting on God's timing.

Key Points:

- The book of Ruth is uniquely relatable because it shows ordinary people living faithfully in an immoral culture, similar to our context today
- Ruth and Boaz lived simple, everyday lives, yet their courageous faith made them significant in God's kingdom and part of Jesus' lineage
- The courage to help, provide, and protect: Boaz obeyed God's law by leaving grain for the poor and went beyond requirements to care for Ruth and Naomi
- The courage to step into risky situations: Ruth took a bold risk by approaching Boaz at the threshing floor, trusting God's plan through Naomi's guidance
- The courage to live righteously: Boaz chose to do what was right according to God's law even when no one would have judged him for doing otherwise
- The courage to wait on God's timing: Patience itself requires courage and faith, as demonstrated by Ruth and Naomi waiting for God's provision
- We are like Ruth—in need of a redeemer—and Jesus is our kinsman redeemer who provides, protects, and brings us into God's family

- God sees us with favor and love, calling us to eat at His table as part of His family, not just survive in the fields

Scripture Reference:

- Book of Ruth (entire book, with focus on chapters 1-3)
- Ruth 1:1 (setting during the time of judges)
- Ruth 1:16 (Ruth's faith statement: "Your people will be my people and your God will be my God")
- Ruth 2:2 (Ruth going to glean in the fields)
- Ruth 2:5 (Boaz asking about Ruth)
- Ruth 2:8-9, 15-16 (Boaz providing extra grain for Ruth)
- Ruth 3:1-5 (Naomi's instructions to Ruth)
- Ruth 3:7-9 (Ruth approaching Boaz at the threshing floor)
- Ruth 3:11-13 (Boaz's righteous response)
- Ruth 3:16-18 (Naomi counseling patience)
- Proverbs 31 (the virtuous woman, mentioned as preceding Ruth in some Bible arrangements)
- Ephesians 5 (covering and submission in marriage)

Stories:

- The story of Ruth leaving Moab with Naomi after losing her husband, choosing to follow Naomi's God
- Ruth gleaning in the fields of Boaz and catching his attention
- Boaz providing extra grain for Ruth and protecting her in his fields
- Ruth approaching Boaz at the threshing floor at night, uncovering his feet so he would wake up
- Boaz choosing to honor the kinsman redeemer law by first approaching the closer relative

- The closer relative declining to marry Ruth, allowing Boaz to redeem her
- Personal story: Brad's experience working in the oil field, water department, and fire department before ministry, learning about living godly in secular culture
- Personal story: Brad's wedding day moment on June 10, 2006, seeing his bride walk down the aisle
- Personal story: Brad's experience as a fireman checking equipment every morning, choosing to do right even when others weren't
- Reference to Mephibosheth eating at King David's table as a picture of God's grace
- The genealogy from Ruth and Boaz leading to Obed, Jesse, David, and ultimately Jesus Christ