

RUTH



WEEK TEN

"I HAVE ACQUIRED RUTH THE MOABITRESS"

DAY 1

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Read Ruth 4:9-14. Who witnesses the redemption/marriage process in verse nine?
3. What blessings do the people speak over Ruth and Boaz's marriage in verses eleven and twelve? Which people are specifically mentioned in these verses?
4. What are the various identities by which Ruth has been known throughout this story (see Ruth 1:21, 2:10, and 4:10) and how do you think they impact her view of herself?
5. Ruth's identity was a combination of her ethnicity, her past experiences, her family, her marital situation, and even the tragedies that had befallen her. What makes up your identity? How do you see yourself? What would others say about who you are?
6. Write out this week's memory verse on a notecard or a piece of paper and post it somewhere you will see it often (e.g bathroom mirror, car, desk, kitchen sink, etc.).

Scripture Memory:

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold new things have come."

~2 Corinthians 5:17

I'm praying about:

DAY 2

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. The Moabite people had an unfavorable beginning and, at times, clashed with Israel. Read Genesis 19:24-38, Numbers 25:1-3, Deuteronomy 23:3, Joshua 24:9, Judges 3:12-14 and 11:17-18. What do you think the overall attitude of the Israelites is toward the Moabites?
3. Ruth could not control where she was born and her background from playing into her identity and/or peoples' opinion of her. What things in your life, that were beyond your control, negatively impact your identity?
4. One of the blessings spoken over Ruth and Boaz was that their house would be like the house of Perez, from whose lineage Boaz comes. Read Genesis 38. Perez's family history is a mess, even by today's standards. Now read Matthew 1:1-3. Whose names do you see mentioned in the lineage of Christ?
5. If God can use Judah, Tamar, Perez and Ruth, what does that tell you about his ability to use you, despite the things that have happened to you or the mess your family history might be?
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 3

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. Our identity can be negatively impacted by things that happened to us, but it can also be negatively impacted by things we ourselves have done. Shame from mistakes we have made, the baggage of sin we've indulged in, and guilt over the people we've hurt attach themselves to us like an ugly stain we can never wash out. Somewhere deep in our souls we know we are unworthy, unqualified and, as a result, unaccepted. Do you struggle with guilt, shame, or a sense of unworthiness? If so, why? What is the source of these feelings?
3. What does Jeremiah 2:22 say about trying to wash away the stains of our past on our own?
4. While it's true we cannot remove our guilt, shame and condemnation on our own, what does Christ grant us in place of our sin in 2 Corinthians 5:21?
5. When we trust Christ we are granted a righteousness we could never gain on our own. No one is unredeemable. How do Isaiah 44:22, Acts 10:28, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, and Romans 8:1 set us free from guilt and shame?
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 4

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. In Ruth 2:10 Ruth expresses to Boaz her surprise at finding favor in his sight since she was a foreigner. Her surprise at being noticed and finding favor implies that she felt small, insignificant and unnoticeable. Are there any areas in your life in which you feel overlooked or forgotten?
3. Read Isaiah 43:1 & 4, 49:7, and 62:12. How do these verses speak to you when you feel overlooked?
4. While through human eyes Ruth may have seemed insignificant, she was not so to God. He took note of Ruth, though many would have considered her an outcast. How have you seen God continuously make provision for Ruth throughout this study so far?
5. Just as He saw Ruth and made repeated provision for her, He will do the same for you because He loves you and you are precious in His sight. How does this truth impact your identity?
6. Write out this week's memory verse below:

DAY 5

1. Begin your study time with prayer.
2. What happens in Ruth 4:10 & 13 that changes Ruth's identity?
3. How is her new identity different from her old identity? (Note your answer to Day One; Question Five.)
4. Just as Ruth's identity completely changed when she became Boaz's wife, so has your identity changed when you came to know Christ. How do Deuteronomy 9:29, Psalm 139:13-16, 2 Corinthians 5:17, and Galatians 4:4-5 define your identity in Christ?
5. When you trusted Christ as your Savior you were bought with the price of His blood; you are His. He declares that you are worthy, valuable, significant, a daughter and co-heir with Christ. However, it is up to us not only to know this truth, but to walk in it. What prevents you from doing so?
6. Ask God to help you place your identity solely in Him and walk in the confidence He instills. You are enough because He has declared it so. Neither you nor anyone else gets to tarnish your identity in Christ.
7. Write out this week's memory verse below: