

# RUTH

THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES



## Ruth: The God of Second Chances | “Trust the Process”

### Ruth 3:1-18

Redemption is a little tough to understand. Why do I need to be redeemed?

Redemption means to BUY BACK/to clear a debt→Boy who bought his boat back.→Ruth 3:1-18

→Summary: Redemption is a big word we don't always associate to our everyday lives. And yet, we intrinsically understand its value when we see the narrative play out in the world around us. How does God redeem us? Why does God redeem us? Each of us are holy and set apart for the unique purpose of being in relationship with God. In our journey back to God and the rest only He can provide, we must trust God's process for redemption.

→How does redemption work in my life?→Returning to God's purposes for me, but we have to trust the process.

**Graphic**→Naomi has been revived in hearing of the kindness Boaz has shown to Ruth. So she formulates a plan to take care of Ruth long term with the hope that Boaz, as a family redeemer, will eventually marry her and redeem them. At the threshing floor, a place of symbolic meaning, Ruth presents herself to Boaz who sees her for her virtuous character, not only her outward appearance. Ruth takes a giant risk and now must trust God's process for redemption.

**Ruth 3:1-18:** *One day Naomi said to Ruth, “My daughter, it’s time that I found a permanent home for you, so that you will be provided for. [Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? - ESV]*

*2 Boaz is a close relative of ours, and he’s been very kind by letting you gather grain with his young women. Tonight he will be winnowing barley at the threshing floor. 3 Now do as I tell you—take a bath and put on perfume and dress in your nicest clothes. Then go to the threshing floor, but don’t let Boaz see you until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 Be sure to notice where he lies down; then go and uncover his feet and lie down there. He will tell you what to do.”*

*5 “I will do everything you say,” Ruth replied. 6 So she went down to the threshing floor that night and followed the instructions of her mother-in-law.*

**God has a PLAN.**→Life is not random...have you noticed?

- **EX:** Naomi had a plan for Ruth to get married/**REST**. She told her to present herself to Boaz at the threshing floor.→*Gō' ēl Law (Property/Redeemer): Lev. 25:24-28*→Levirate Law (Progeny/Marriage): Deut. 25:5-10
- **THEO:** Redemption is a PLAN to go back to REST/Salvation.→Graphic→It wasn't suppose to be this difficult!
- There is no **REST** until **we accept God's plan to redeem:** id, gender, sexuality, marriage, singleness, money, career.

→TRANSITION: God has a plan to redeem every area of our lives. But how will we know what that plan is...?

*7 After Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he lay down at the far end of the pile of grain and went to sleep. Then Ruth came quietly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. 8 Around midnight Boaz suddenly woke up and turned over. He was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet! 9 “Who are you?” he asked.*

*“I am your servant Ruth,” she replied. “Spread the corner of your covering over me, for you are my family redeemer.”*

10 "The Lord bless you, my daughter!" Boaz exclaimed. "You are showing even more family loyalty now than you did before, for you have not gone after a younger man, whether rich or poor. 11 Now don't worry about a thing, my daughter. I will do what is necessary, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman. 12 But while it's true that I am one of your family redeemers, there is another man who is more closely related to you than I am. 13 Stay here tonight, and in the morning I will talk to him. If he is willing to redeem you, very well. Let him marry you. But if he is not willing, then as surely as the Lord lives, I will redeem you myself! Now lie down here until morning."

14 So Ruth lay at Boaz's feet until the morning, but she got up before it was light enough for people to recognize each other. For Boaz had said, "No one must know that a woman was here at the threshing floor." 15 Then Boaz said to her, "Bring your cloak and spread it out." He measured six scoops of barley into the cloak and placed it on her back. Then he returned to the town.

**God's plan is a PERSON.** → Plans are theoretical until you involve people. → "I love it when a plan comes together." → **BG**

- **EX:** Ruth took a **BOLD RISK** (but her risk is calculated)...bc Ruth can't redeem herself. She must trust Boaz!
- **THEO:** God's plan starts of redeeming us back to rest requires us to become like Jesus. → Jesus who would die on a cross and rise to life because there was nothing we could do to redeem ourselves and cover our sin. → 1 Cor. 1:18
- **We must trust Jesus** to cover our sins, to buy us back...and? → **WE MUST FOLLOW HIS LEAD.** → Mt. 16:24-26
- Jesse, the main character in **Free Willy**, redeems Willy...and Willy must trust Jesse to jump over the rocky jetty.

→ **TRANSITION:** God's plan to redeem us starts with Jesus on the cross...and our willingness to follow him.

16 When Ruth went back to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, "What happened, my daughter?"

Ruth told Naomi everything Boaz had done for her, 17 and she added, "He gave me these six scoops of barley and said, 'Don't go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'"

18 Then Naomi said to her, "Just be patient, my daughter, until we hear what happens. The man won't rest until he has settled things today."

**God's person expects PATIENCE.** → Our redemption is **ALWAYS** connected to others' redemption / judgement.

- Naomi tells Ruth to have patience. With God...timing is connected to order. There is an **ORDER** that must be followed. → Gen. 15:16 → Phil. 1:6 → God will finish the work. He has promised to do so!
- I struggle with patience...because i don't understand **WHY** God requires it.
- **VISION:** We want to be a church that reflects the **PATIENCE** of God in redeeming people. → Prayer: Lord, help us!

→ **TRANSITION:** Following Jesus is never easy...it requires patience. God wants to redeem more than us.

→ **Trust the process!**

**TALK ABOUT IT - Questions to GROW through with family, friends, & myself.**

1. What is a example of redemption in the world around me?
2. How does my example of redemption make sense in light of what Jesus has done for us?
3. How did Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz all play a part in setting the stage for Jesus' eventual arrival?
4. Why is it important to remain patient in God's plan for redemption? How are others involved?
5. **PRAYER:** "Father, help me to trust the process of redemption in my life and the lives of others!"

## VIDEOS / GRAPHICS:

- Bible Project “Ruth” Graphic: [Click HERE to download.](#)
- Bible Project “Ruth” Video Summary: [Click here to watch on Youtube](#) or watch below.



## QUOTES:

- “God undertook the most dramatic rescue operation in cosmic history. He determined to save the human race from self-destruction, and He sent His Son Jesus Christ to salvage and redeem them. The work of man’s redemption was accomplished at the cross.” ~ Billy Graham
- “Mere improvement is not redemption, though redemption always improves people” ~ C. S. Lewis

## SCRIPTURES: New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.

- **Ruth 3:1 ESV** - Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?”
- Gō’ēl Law(Property/Redeemer): **Leviticus 25:24-28** - 24 “With every purchase of land you must grant the seller the right to buy it back. 25 If one of your fellow Israelites falls into poverty and is forced to sell some family land, then a close relative should buy it back for him. 26 If there is no close relative to buy the land, but the person who sold it gets enough money to buy it back, 27 he then has the right to redeem it from the one who bought it. The price of the land will be discounted according to the number of years until the next Year of Jubilee. In this way the original owner can then return to the land. 28 But if the original owner cannot afford to buy back the land, it will remain with the new owner until the next Year of Jubilee. In the jubilee year, the land must be returned to the original owners so they can return to their family land.
- Levirate Law (Progeny/Marriage): **Deuteronomy 25:5-10** 5 “If two brothers are living together on the same property and one of them dies without a son, his widow may not be married to anyone from outside the family. Instead, her husband’s brother should marry her and have intercourse with her to fulfill the duties of a brother-in-law. 6 The first son she bears to him will be considered the son of the dead brother, so that his name will not be forgotten in Israel. 7 “But if the man refuses to marry his brother’s widow, she must go to the town gate and say to the elders assembled there, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to preserve his brother’s name in Israel—he refuses to fulfill the duties of a brother-in-law by marrying me.’ 8 The elders of the town will then summon him and talk with him. If he still refuses and says, ‘I don’t want to marry her,’ 9 the widow must walk over to him in the presence of the elders, pull his sandal from his foot, and spit in his face. Then she must declare, ‘This is what happens to a man who refuses to provide his brother with children.’ 10 Ever afterward in Israel his family will be referred to as ‘the family of the man whose sandal was pulled off!’
- **1 Corinthians 1:18** - The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.
- **Matthew 16:24-26** - 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. 25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. 26 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?”
- **Philippians 1:6** - And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.
- **Genesis 15:16** - After four generations your descendants will return here to this land, for the sins of the Amorites do not yet warrant their destruction.”
- **John 6:68** - Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life.
- **Romans 8:28** - And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

**MESA CHURCH:** Mesa Church exists to love people into a closer relationship with Jesus!

- [Click to Take a NEXT STEP with Jesus.](#)
- [Click to EXPLORE Mesa's mission & vision.](#)
- [Click to CONNECT with Mesa's Digital Platforms.](#)