

WISE DECISIONS  
Ruth 2:20-3:18

The Truth of Today: Know how to make a GODLY decision.

*But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. 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

*Her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!" Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. "The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz," she said.*

*<sup>20</sup> "The Lord bless him!" Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. "He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead." She added, "That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers."*

Ruth 2:19-20

*Then Ruth the Moabite said, "He even said to me, 'Stay with my workers until they finish harvesting all my grain.'" <sup>22</sup> Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, "It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with the women who work for him, because in someone else's field you might be harmed." <sup>23</sup> So Ruth stayed close to the women of Boaz to glean until the barley and wheat harvests were finished. And she lived with her mother-in-law.*

Ruth 2:21-23

1. To know how to make a godly decision, you must know how to CONTEXTUALIZE the decision.

*Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with the women who work for him, because in someone else's field you might be harmed."*

Ruth 2:2

*One day Ruth's mother-in-law Naomi said to her, "My daughter, I must find a home for you, where you will be well provided for."<sup>2</sup> Now Boaz, with whose women you have worked, is a relative of ours. Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor.<sup>3</sup> Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. <sup>4</sup> 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."*

*<sup>5</sup> "I will do whatever you say," Ruth answered. <sup>6</sup> So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do.*

Ruth 3:1-6

2. To know how to make a godly decision... You must know when to move FORWARD in faith.

*"Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes."*

Ruth 3:3

*So David got up from the ground, washed, anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and when he asked, they served him food, and he ate.<sup>21</sup> Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you got up and ate food."<sup>22</sup> And he said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who knows, the Lord may be gracious to me, and the child may live.'<sup>23</sup> But now he has died; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I am going to him, but he will not return to me."*

2 Samuel 12:20-23 NASB

3. To know how to make a godly decision... You must follow your plan with INTEGRITY.

*When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Ruth approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down.<sup>8</sup> In the middle of the night something startled the man; he turned—and there was a woman lying at his feet!<sup>9</sup> "Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she said. "Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family."*

Ruth 3:7-9

*"The Lord bless you, my daughter," he replied. "This kindness is greater than that which you showed earlier: You have not run after the younger men, whether rich or poor.<sup>11</sup> And now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a woman of noble character.<sup>12</sup> Although it is true that I am a guardian-redeemer of our family, there is another who is more closely related than I.<sup>13</sup> Stay here for the night, and in the morning if he wants to do his duty as your guardian-redeemer, good; let him redeem you. But if he is not willing, as surely as the Lord lives I will do it. Lie here until morning."*

Ruth 3:10-13

*So she lay at his feet until morning, but got up before anyone could be recognized; and he said, "No one must know that a woman came to the threshing floor."<sup>15</sup> He also said, "Bring me the shawl you are wearing and hold it out." When she did so, he poured into it six measures of barley and placed the bundle on her. Then he went back to town.*

Ruth 3:14-15

4. To know how to make a godly decision... You must leave ROOM for God to work.

*When Ruth came to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, "How did it go, my daughter?" Then she told her everything Boaz had done for her<sup>17</sup> and added, "He gave me these six measures of barley, saying, 'Don't go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'"<sup>18</sup> Then Naomi said, "Wait, my daughter, until you find out what happens. For the man will not rest until the matter is settled today."*

Ruth 3:16-18

*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.*

Philippians 1:6 NLT