

Ruth 4:1-6 Rootwork To Redeem or Not to Redeem...

1. (Everyday) Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer! Go through your “yesterday” and ask the Lord to reveal your heart! Prepare your heart and surrender your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!! Make a conscious effort to bow your will and your obedience to the Lord before you even dive in! This prepares your heart to hear and to heed everything He speaks to you!

2. (Everyday) Then spend time in adoration and worship after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours! Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so submit to God, resist him and he will flee!!

3. If you were at the “Digging Deeper Workshop” and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Ruth 4:1-6 into a word/pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received! If you were not there and want to watch it, search “Digging Deeper” on our website or app and watch it for tools to help you in your study time!

4. (Everyday) After you finish your rootwork every day, be sure to spend time in prayer (ACTS) going through what you have learned and received from the Word of God! This is also in your “Digging Deeper” handout!

5. Spend some time reviewing every section theme- review the lessons that were impactful to you. Make note of those and the testimonies of what God has done through that! Record them and please consider sharing some of those with us at the Ruth wrap up!

6. Review by reading chapter 3 and into chapter 4 to verse 6. Where are we at in the lives of Ruth, Boaz and Naomi and is there anything you see this time reading it that you did not see before?

7. Go through the first 6 verses again and look up any words that you want further insight on in your Blue Letter Bible app. Pay close attention and be sure to label “redeem” or “to buy” for this chapter is all about redemption! (If you have questions on what the Blue Letter Bible app is or how to use it, please email me or grab me at any of our services and I will be happy to show you!)

8. In your own words write out what redemption means! How has Christ redeemed you? What did He do to fulfill the law of redemption?

9. Look at verse 1, the gate was super important when dealing with important matters. Why was this so? Look up the following accounts and record why the city gate is significant in each.

A. Genesis 23

B. Amos 5

C. 2 Samuel 18

D. Esther 2

E. Proverbs 1

F. Deuteronomy 21:18-21

10. Look up the words, “sat down”, “turned aside” and “friend”. Record their meanings. Why are they significant to us personally? How has Jesus done the same thing for you and me?

11. God is working in the background of Ruth and Boaz’s story! His fingerprints are all over it! How has God been working in the background of your own story? How have you seen Him in the not so obvious moments of your life?

12. God is working here in the natural situations, the angel Gabriel never showed up, the angel of the Lord never made His appearance but God was all over every detail! Sometimes we limit God’s activity to the obvious in our lives! How have you personally limited God to to obvious in your life? How can you make an intentional effort to be aware of the “behind the scenes” work God is so faithful to do?

13. Look up (if you have not already) “close relative” and write out what that means. Then look up Numbers 27:8-11 and record what part of the law is being adhered to here!

14. The Kinsmen redeemer was responsible for the following 4 things, please look up the verses that coincide with each responsibility and record your thoughts on why this is so significant...if you see it, write out how the Lord has fulfilled the requirements of each as well. (Or you can go back to the teaching where we covered this in chapter 2)

A. The kinsman redeemer was responsible to buy a fellow relative out of slavery (Leviticus 25:48).

B. The kinsman redeemer was responsible to be the “avenger of blood” to make sure the murderer of a family member paid for the crime (Numbers 35:19).

C. The Kinsman redeemer was responsible to buy back family land that had been lost due to economic hardship or famine (Leviticus 25:25).

D. The Kinsman redeemer was responsible to carry on the family name by marrying their deceased brothers widow (Deuteronomy 25:5-10).

15. Be sure to record any attributes of God that you see in the responsibility of the kinsmen redeemer as well as the first 6 verses of Ruth 4. Get out your Who is God journal! Who is God? What did He do? Who are you based on what He has done? That determines what you do, how you live and what lense you see the world!

16. Read verse 2 and 3, what does Boaz do and what does he say?

17. Notice what he leaves out, and notice how he explains the situation to this no name kinsmen! Why do you think he does that?

18. Read verse 4, what happens here? Do you think Ruth and Naomi are listening? Record what you think their thoughts were? How do you think Ruth was feeling knowing her character and everything she has done and been through in the last 24-48 hours? What would you be feeling or thinking?

19. Why was the land so appealing to this man?

20. In Bible study I shared with you how land is not complicated, land does not have an opinion and there is no real risk to land..it has no need or desire for relationship, and it has no concern for circumstances. Does this remind you of anything in your own life? Is there a relationship you have been in where as long as there was no commitment or complication everything was good, but as soon as it got messy or had a sacrifice to it... they were out? If so explain how did you handle that? Explain what you learned through that situation as you watched their integrity and character? (Or it might have been your own)

21. Read verse 5, what did Boaz add here?

22.How does he introduce Ruth? Why do you think he did it this way?

23. Notice how he says "his" inheritance and not your inheritance. Knowing the purpose of a kinsmen redeemer, who gets the benefit here?

24.Read verse 6, what does this closest relative decide to do?

25. What changed his mind so quickly?

26. Look up every word in this verse and record what each mean, how does this give you further insight to the choice this kinsmen was making?

27. He had a duty to fulfill as a kinsmen, a duty and a law...why did he not fulfill it? Why did he choose to walk away?

28. This is so similar when it comes to obedience to God, I have so often seen where it can look really attractive when people know they are going to get a personal benefit from it, but the moment it really costs something, the moment they are ridiculed, misunderstood, and criticized they are out! See, obedience and serving God comes with a high price, that price is self...if you want to maintain self over obedience to the Lord, you will quickly find yourself walking away! Ministry is not always glamorous, it is not always energizing and exciting... sometimes you just have to persevere and endure with the joy of knowing it is for the Lord and not for man! Otherwise you will not be able to commit your hand to anything! You will be finding something wrong about everywhere and everything God has called you to. He requires us to lay aside everything to serve Him and follow Him with your whole heart! The benefit and joy in seeing His Spirit move and be glorified even in the most difficult of circumstances far outweigh keeping self "comfortable" and free of messiness! Not to even mention all that it does eternally!! It is so worth it!! Write out your thoughts on this or a time that you have felt this way and the outcome of it! We will discuss this in our next Rootwork night but this is a valuable truth that is vital we learn as servants and as disciples of the Lord!

29. Read Luke 14:25-35 and look at what Jesus is saying here. Break it up, structure it if you are structuring and see the detailed account of what Jesus is trying to get across to those following him for signs and wonders! What does He say? Why does He say it and what does He mean?

30. How do these verses challenge you and impact you personally? Does this convict you and show you anything that you love more than the Lord? If so, what is it and how are you going to respond to the Spirit of God? 31. Read the following two quotes I shared in Bible study and record your thoughts on each:

1. "Salt is only useful when it has the nature of salt. A Christian is only useful when he or she has the nature of Christ." Guzik

2. "The essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting Himself for man. Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be, God sacrifices Himself for man and puts Himself where only man deserves to be....if we expose sin without magnifying Christ, we have failed. A guilty conscience is a great blessing, but only if it drives us to come home!" - John Scott

32. Go back to Ruth 4:6, what did the no name kinsmen say his concern was in taking on Ruth as his wife?

33. Isn't it ironic and interesting that the one thing that this man was so afraid of losing is the one thing he lost? Ever been there?

34. Read Matt 16:24-27 and record how this is just like what Jesus warned us of! How does this challenge you? What does his tell you about the need for eternal perspective? Write it out!

35. We have seen how Boaz is a typology of Jesus throughout the whole of the book of Ruth and during the study of this I realized He has also given a closer kinsmen. One that will not cover and can not redeem! THE LAW!! Just like the land The Law is not complicated, the law does not have an opinion and there is no real risk for the law...it has no need or desire for relationship, it has no concern for circumstances...you either obey or you don't! You are either considered perfect or condemned, and because you can't obey the law- the law has no use for you!

36. Just like above at the city gate, the law was brought front and center, declared and exercised there- just as it with this no name kinsmen! Isn't that amazing how God reveals Himself and how He shows His plans throughout the whole Old Testament! What does that tell you about the character of God? Be sure to record in your Who is God journal!

37. Look up the following verses slowly and in context, then record what they say about the law! If you have time, look up as many verses as you can about the law and how Jesus fulfilled it and how it could not redeem!

1. Romans 8:3-4

2. Galatians 3:23-25

3. Romans 3: 20-22

4. Galatians 2:16

5. Titus 3:5

6. Hebrews 10:1-4

7. Acts 4:12

38. Take a few minutes and think about this... We are just like Ruth, the law will not accept us, it will not cover us and when the law would ask us, "who are you?" We can only say, "I am Jessica, I am (your name) , the daughter of Eve, I am sinful and I am a Moabite." The law would say,"I am sorry I cant not redeem you!" The law was given to Moses in Exodus 20, and came first as an expression of God's character and to reveal to all mankind that they are sinners in need of a Redeemer that will cover them!! The law revealed the necessity that if man wanted to be able to be in the presence of God, then they would have to be perfect themselves by following the law! Which could not happen with people of a sin nature so the law is powerless to redeem! It has no

dealings with our sin nature just as this nearer redeemer was powerless to redeem Ruth because of her Moabite nature! She had imperfections and he didn't want anything to do with her. What an incredible thought and reality! Write out a prayer of thankfulness that our God made another way! That He sent His Son to be the bridge between God and man. He took on our sin as we took on His Righteousness! What a mighty God we serve!! "The law shows the distance which there is between God and man; the gospel bridges that distance" Spurgeon

39. So much self righteousness, striving, and legalism is from trying to earn God's favor by works...or even trying to earn God's redemption by works! How has this impacted your life personally? Have you struggled with this? If so, How? If you have not, have you seen this perspective influence anyone you know and love? How did it affect their perception of who God is?

40. What did Ruth bring to the table to receive Boaz as her redeemer, how much did it cost her?

41. What did we bring to the table? What did it cost you to receive

42. Humility is the necessary heart attitude when coming to the Lord whether it be for the first time or for any time! Humbling yourself before the Lord in complete gratefulness for all He has done brings about such beauty and fruit!

43. Write what the Lord speaks to your heart about the following statements we went over in Bible study! We need to know our need and in knowing our need we stay humble!! It is that very need that keeps us moldable in the Father's hands and GRATEFUL for our Redeemers work! Humility is the opposite of rebellion:

1. Rebellion stands up and says I am going to do it my way! Humility bends low and praises God that He made a way for a sinner such as me!

2. Rebellion is hard and critical. Humility is soft and moldable.

3. Rebellion develops into bitterness. Humility develops into holiness.

44. Read 1 Peter 5:6-11 and write out what Peter says here! How does this exhort and encourage you personally on your walk?

45. Finish out with writing a prayer of gratefulness for what God is showing you, how He is molding and conforming you into the image of Christ!! Praise Him for His redemption for His grace and for His love!! We must never take for granted what we have been given in Christ Jesus!