



Discipleship Guide Redeemed Restored Remembered Ruth 4

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

## **Weekly Questions:**

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
  - How are you living up with God?
  - How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
  - How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

## Read Ruth 4

- In Ruth 4:1-6, Boaz approaches the town gate to address the matter of Naomi's land and Ruth. How does Boaz's public and legal approach to redemption demonstrate his integrity and commitment to proper procedure? What can we learn from his actions about handling important matters with transparency and community involvement?
- The unnamed guardian-redeemer initially agrees to redeem the land but refuses when he learns he must also acquire Ruth (Ruth 4:5-6). What does this reveal about his priorities compared to Boaz's, and what does it teach us about the cost of true redemption and loyalty?
- Boaz, without hesitation, agrees to fulfill both the legal and moral obligations by purchasing the land and marrying Ruth (Ruth 4:9-10). How does this act go "beyond the call of duty" and reflect a deeper understanding of "redemption" than simply a financial transaction?
- In what ways does Boaz's insistence on maintaining "the name of the dead" (Ruth 4:10) reflect God's character of remembering and honoring those who have experienced loss? Think of a time you felt God remembered you in a difficult situation.
- How does the community's blessing over Boaz and Ruth (Ruth 4:11-12) connect their union to the larger story of Israel and God's redemptive plan? What does this suggest about the communal aspect of God's work in our lives?
- Pastor Josh said, "The God who remembers is also the God who restores." How is Naomi's transformation from bitterness to joy, culminating in her holding Obed (Ruth 4:14-17), a powerful illustration of God's restorative work?
- The sermon highlights that God's redemption story has room for everyone, including those from unexpected backgrounds (like Ruth, Rahab, and Bathsheba in Jesus' genealogy).
  How does this truth challenge any preconceived notions we might have about who God loves or who is "worthy" of God's redemption?

After reflection, what are you going to do about what you learned this week?