

## NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

### LESSON FIFTY-FOUR AND FIFTY-FIVE COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

Have you noticed that when you were a child, you were often identified as your parent's child, but it isn't long until you became identified as your child's parent? As a parent, it feels weird when you first realize that your child now has their own identity, and you are somehow second in importance at times.

We like to think that we have our own identity and yet it is also a privilege to be identified in a relationship with someone else. When a woman marries, it is usually a great sense of pride to be called 'Mrs.' Ruth was in the position of possibly becoming 'Mrs' in our story today. Naomi cared deeply for Ruth and hoped to see her life improved by marrying Boaz. Not long before that, Ruth was the one who was caring deeply for her Mother-in-Law when she made a commitment to Naomi. Prior to this part of our story she was mostly known to be the daughter-in-law to Naomi.

Do you remember the words of Ruth in *Ruth 1:16 to 17*? *"And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: 17-Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part to me."*

Those words were a strong commitment for a daughter-in-law to make to her mother-in-law at that time, but she truly loved Naomi. Those words are still often used in wedding ceremonies. When a wife makes a commitment to her husband, she makes a commitment to become one with him in every way. That is God's design for a good marriage. Yes, we still must make that choice, but God desires for us to show that loving commitment to our spouse just as Ruth did to Naomi.

God abundantly rewarded that commitment. Naomi and Ruth both benefited from that love when Ruth made a commitment to her Redeemer. When we make a commitment to our Redeemer, we can begin to identify as God's child and thus benefit from all the resources that God has available for us each day, as well as becoming heir to the inheritance of eternal life. How awesome!! When we make a commitment to love and serve our Redeemer, our lives become totally changed. In fact, the more we grow close to Him, the more we see His love flowing in and through us to share His love to others.

I am so grateful for His unfailing love. It is a love that is always available. It never ends. I belong to Him. I am looking forward to being reunited with my Redeemer, as well as my husband someday. For now, I can greatly benefit from my relationship with Jesus each day and feel the presence of His love each moment. There is no limit to His love. What an amazing Redeemer!

*Your unfailing love is better than life itself: how I praise you! Psalms 44:26*

If you haven't made a commitment to your redeemer, please make the decision to ask Him to become your redeemer and the Lord of your life. If you would like assistance, please call me at 717-798-4155. If you have already made that commitment, please enjoy your week of daily getting to know your

redeemer better. Each day can be like a honeymoon of getting to know Him and grow more in love with Him each day. He loves you even more than any spouse can.

Love and Prayers,

Sandy Yates