

## NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

### LESSON TWENTY-SIX COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

What is your favorite time of year? Spring is my favorite because I get so excited to see all the renewed green grass, the buds on the trees, and most of all the new flowers. I spent many fall seasons planting bulbs and imagining how beautiful all the tulips and other spring flowers will look as they shoot through the ground. I watched for every new growth, and then often took pictures as the flowers emerged. It was exciting to watch, and it truly brightened my day.

For Naomi and Ruth, Spring was also a time of rebirth. For Israel, it was also a time to begin the first harvest of their fall planning and planting. Barley was first. Then Wheat. If you have not yet read Sandy's lesson, I hope you will make sure that you read it carefully. There is a wealth of information that not only applies to our story, but it is a foretelling of the time of Jesus, and ultimately the second coming of Christ. My husband always said that Bible history repeats itself throughout scripture. God is amazing. He tells us details about the past, shows how it applies to the present, and prophesies what is to come, all in the same scripture. To everything there certainly is a season, but one day even the seasons of time on earth will come to an end. The seasons of harvest are very specific. We are now in the last days of God's harvest time.

The more we study the story of Ruth, the more we see how many details are prophetic. God has used this story to show us how He cared for Naomi and Ruth, a Jew and a Gentile, and how He brought them together and brought both a redeemer. He showed us how it applies to the ancestry of Jesus who offered Himself for both Jew and Gentile. In the book of Acts, He shows us how the early church came together at Pentecost when the Holy Ghost was given. All throughout scripture, He shows us how the various times of harvest will signal the end of harvest which will bring us together to be with Jesus one day. It holds so many truths. As my flowers slowly emerged, these truths almost seem hidden, but they beautifully become in full view as we study God's amazing plan.

I was just talking to one of my sisters about how blessed we are to have sisters that can share God's love as well as our love for each other. Any time we can share the bond of Christ in our lives, we are participating in the same type of blessings that Naomi and Ruth experienced when they returned to God together. Together, they also greatly benefited from God's love and care.

No matter what season you are in, I hope you can see God's hand on your life, and you can be thankful for family and friends who continue to care and show love in many ways. Most of all, I pray that you will be able to rejoice in all that God has done in your life to draw you closer to Him and lead you into His continual plan for your life. He never fails. No matter how cloudy some days may look, the Son will shine again as we open our eyes to Him.

Have a blessed time celebrating God's seasons, the loved ones He has given us, and the hope we have because of His Son.

You are very special and very loved. The verse that Sandy shared is very appropriate. I will repeat it so you can concentrate on it again.

*"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit." I John 4:10, 13*

May each new season find you looking forward to a deeper love for Him and a growing love for others.

Love and Prayers,

Sandy Yates