

NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON FORTY-NINE COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

How well do we accept changes in our lives? Some major changes are traumatic. After the loss of a loved one, a family separation, a sudden job change, or other experience that demand emotional and/or physical changes, we often struggle with a certain amount of grief or various levels of depression. Seeing hope for the future can be very difficult. Making even little changes or decisions often seem like major obstacles. Yet many decisions can't wait. Our friends and family want to help. Sometimes it is very hard to accept and sometimes it is hard to know what advice to follow.

Ruth knew that her mother-in-law loved her and wanted the best for her, but it must have been very difficult to boldly make the move to offer herself to the one who was able to redeem her. Yet she didn't seem hesitate. She followed Naomi's advice and the current tradition. Marriage brings a certain amount of security and often a level of protection. Ruth was following tradition in that she was lying at the feet of a possible redeemer. By asking him to cover her with his skirt she was asking him to be her redeemer which would also give her a covering of protection.

We all make daily choices, even if it is just our daily plan for activities. It is amazing how much harder those simple choices are after a major event but taking steps to go forward are still very important. What can we do to go beyond our circumstances? Do we need to seek help and advice to get beyond our situation? Is there something that we can do to help someone else rather than spending our efforts primarily on our own needs? Who can we trust that truly cares and will give us the best advice to best walk through our new journey?

There are many who care and can give good advice, but the one who cares most and can give the best direction is the one who is already our redeemer, if we have given our hearts to Him. Our pastor did a sermon on the missing ingredient in which he tried to make a cake without adding a very important ingredient. That is what we often do in trying to figure out how we can make our lives what they should be without adding the most important ingredient, Jesus, who should be the most important ingredient in our lives. His care, guidance, and even resources are what we need to daily. Do we stay in touch constantly with the one who loves and cares for us most? Seeking His direction through prayer and His Word is the best way to experience hope and a future. If you have never asked him to become your redeemer, please don't hesitate. He wants to be your redeemer. He has a great plan for you. He wants to not only give you a better life now, but you can greatly affect those you care about as well as future generations. As we follow Ruth's life, we will see her life completely change. But more than that, her life still affects ours today because of Jesus who was born through her lineage.

1 Peter 5:7- Casting all your cares for Him for He cares for you.

Jeremiah 29:11- "For I know the plans I have for you," saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

May each day be a step closer to a greater plan that draws us closer to our Redeemer.

Have a blessed week.

Love and Prayer