

NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON THIRTY-TWO COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

"If all else fails, read the directions." That was the title of my husband's first sermon. Have you ever assumed that you knew how to do something but later discovered that you should have read the directions or read them more carefully?

We often go about our lives without clear direction. We especially often try to live our lives without consulting God and His will. We neglect reading His love letter to us in which He wants to show us His daily instructions. We may have good intentions but tend to flounder in our efforts. Maybe we don't realize how much we need God's guidance or we don't think we need to make the effort. Then again, some people think they can live a Christian life apart from putting God in control. I heard of a preacher being told that someone doesn't want to attend church because there were too many hypocrites there. He told them that "there is always room for one more." We are all on a journey in our walk with Christ.

Phillippians 3:13-14, "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Ruth was recognized to be a dedicated woman by the foreman and others while she was working in a field belonging to Boaz. She was a gentile, but she was faithfully caring for her Jewish mother-in-law. She was clearly being noticed. Her background was not like theirs, but God used her admirable attitude and perseverance to give her opportunities and open doors for God's plan.

What do people see when they look at us? We all have times of strength and times of weakness. It is in the times of weakness or need that we are often most noticed and show what is at the core of being. Do we turn toward or away from God? We know that God never changes. He is always available and ready to meet our needs, He longs for us to recognize our brokenness so He can become our strength. The important thing is that we keep pressing on toward a stronger relationship with God. He wants to give us good things through His Son who shed His blood so that we now not only have salvation, but we can claim that blood over our circumstances.

II Peter 1:3- "God has already given us all that we need for every spiritual struggle we may face."

Through the Holy Spirit we have access to unlimited fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Galations 5 :22, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness."

God has given us all the tools we need to become the person that God designed us to be and to grow closer to God for our good and His glory.

Romans 8:28, "For we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

God always has a greater plan. Just read the directions. They are written with love for you personally in His Word.

Love and Prayers, Sandy Yates