

NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON ELEVEN COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

Today's lesson is one that is very difficult to experience and to achieve.

It is difficult to experience because we hate the thought of losing things and loved ones. Naomi lost the property she owned when she left her land to join her husband and sons to move to Moab hoping for a more fruitful environment. While there she lost her husband and sons. She now had no heirs. She decided to return home.

It is difficult to achieve in that Naomi in that she had to come to the end of her own efforts and recognize that she was at the end of her own achievements. She decided to return home to Israel, the land of God. Achieving a brokenness and the end of our own efforts is a tough place to be but achieving that recognition and turning toward God can be the most important decision of our lives.

God blessed Naomi through her daughter in law, Ruth. She made some mistakes, but God still showed her his love.

We may not have turned away from God, but we often get complacent with our achievements and don't recognize our great need for God to be fully in charge of our lives until we lose something/someone and come to the end of ourselves. It is even better to come to the end of ourselves without a loss by realizing that we nothing without God (*John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches, He that abideth in me and I in Him the same bringeth forth much fruit for without me you can do nothing*). It should be a daily practice of giving ourselves to Him for His glory. We can do much on our own. Naomi and her husband survived in a strange place and raised 2 sons to the point of marriage. But it left her empty and broken. We can feel comfortable in our achievements, but we miss so much by trying to do it without God in charge. Only through him can we have peace and joy in the midst of our trials. Fulfilling our calling to serve God and becoming a vessel for His love brings purpose in life and eternal rewards.

I personally thought I experienced brokenness before, but losing my husband was the most broken I ever felt. I knew I needed Him in my life daily, but now brokenness took on a new meaning. My life was severed. Half of me was gone. I praise God for the wonderful family that I still had so my experience was minor compared to Naomi, but the emptiness was painful. I needed God to complete me in a new way (Col 2:10, And ye are complete I Him, which is the head of principalities and power). I needed God's power to strengthen and heal me completely.

I pray that you will see God's strength and healing in your lives daily as you give Him the opportunity to complete you and provide new hope.

Love and prayers,

Sandy Yates