

## NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

### LESSON EIGHT COMMENTS

Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope you are enjoying the great lessons that Sandy Harber has been sharing with you. I would like to call your extra attention to the following paragraph in this lesson:

When Naomi lost her husband, God was available to comfort her. But she needed a human connection, too. Every crisis and every major change in our lives may be an occasion for negative emotions to arise. Depending on the situation, we may experience fear, anger, confusion, sorrow, etc. Having someone - or several someones - to turn to for comfort, advice, encouragement, etc. can be the difference between descending into depression or successfully coping.

We all go through times of emotional stress and spiritual struggles. As stated in this lesson, Naomi's name means 'pleasant', but yet after following her husband, raising 2 sick boys, accepting their Moab wives, but then losing her husband and sons, she thought she should be called 'bitter'. She may have thought she did everything that she should have been doing, but the situation she found herself in overwhelmed her and she found herself with a poor attitude. She didn't understand or want to accept the situation that seemed like more than she could handle. She didn't even seem to think she had anything to offer her daughter-in-law. She was in a land that was not her own and did not have fellowship with God's people. How lonely she must have felt in spite of her daughters-in-law who were willing to join her. God used one person to befriend her, Ruth who chose to stay with her. She recognized her need to return to God's people, the Jewish people. In spite of the fact that she had moved to Moab with her husband to avoid the famine, God opened the door for her to be restored.

God is always ready to meet us where we are, no matter what our circumstances or what decisions we have made that did not draw us closer to God. He is always ready to change our hopelessness or poor attitude to hope. He wants to provide His guidance, His resources, and even friendship that can help us rise above the gloom that we see in our circumstances.

God calls us to pray continually, 1 Thes. 5:17. God wants intimacy with us. He also wants us to pray and encourage each other daily Hebrews 3:13. You are part of a group that is not set up for sharing but you are always welcome to change groups if you would like more sharing.

We want to be there for you. If you have any comments or questions, feel free to email me at [naomi2ruth.connect@gmail.com](mailto:naomi2ruth.connect@gmail.com).

Have a blessed week.

Love in Christ,

Sandy Yates