

Timeline of Truth – Ruth 4:1-6 – Boaz Goes to the Gate to Secure Ruth's Future

<p>THEME (Overall Book Idea): God <i>always</i> rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - even when we cannot know what He is doing - even when it takes many years - even when God allows us to suffer 	<p>A rhyme that captures these ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God is <i>always</i> in control Though we may be <i>unaware</i>. - And God may work over <i>many years</i> And allow troubles <i>hard</i> to bear. - But God is <i>always</i> in control We can <i>trust His loving care</i>.
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Two Memory Verses:

<p>4:14 Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel!"</p>	<p>4:17 Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "There is a son born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.</p>
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Ruth 1:1-5 – Trouble Comes with Life

We are impacted by cultural apostasy, large-scale adversity, and personal tragedy, but God is always actively in control.

Ruth 1:5-7 – Naomi Makes Difficult Decisions (A secondary lesson, but one that is evident here.)

We are to make wise decisions built from the truths of the Bible to honor God.

Ruth 1:8-18 – Naomi Seeks to Provide a Better Future for Her Daughters-in-Law

God wants us to make significant, permanent, often costly life choices for Him.

Ruth 1:19-22 – Naomi Enters Bethlehem (with Ruth) Greeted But Grieved

Circumstances that we cannot control (beyond our obedience) are controlled by God, and require us to trust Him.

Ruth 2:1-3 – Ruth Seeks to Provide, and God Works Out Details

God works through our choices of active obedience and wisdom to accomplish His will through us.

Ruth purposes to serve and provide for her mother-in-law, gleaning in the fields as allow for the poor and widows, and God works.

Ruth 2:4-17 – Boaz Rewards Ruth's Choices

Ruth works hard as a gleaner, and organized Boaz takes note and provides direction, provision, protection, and encouragement.

- The example of Boaz exhorts us to care for the needy, and especially to encourage those who seek to serve God.
- The example of Ruth exhorts us to work hard as we sacrificially serve others and as we ultimately serve God.

Ruth 2:18-23 – Ruth Returns Home from Gleaning, and Naomi Responds

Naomi begins to see the work of God amid her sufferings as He acts through the loyal, loving efforts of Ruth.

Ruth returns with a great quantity of grain and information on the field's owner. Naomi praises God for His care.

^{2:20} Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "Blessed be he of the LORD, who has not forsaken His kindness to the living and the dead!" And Naomi said to her, "This man is a relation of ours, one of our **close relatives**." **2:20 | 3:9; 3:12 (2); 3:13 (4s) | 4:1; 4:3; 4:4 (5); 4:6 (4); 4:8; 4:14**

Ruth 3:1-5 – Naomi Guides Ruth to Approach Boaz

Naomi directs Ruth to approach Boaz with a marriage proposal based upon his kinsman-redeemer relationship (and their lengthy observation).

Ruth 3:6-18 – Ruth Approaches Boaz as Naomi Instructed

God works through the godly and biblical guidance, initiative, and obedience of His people.

<p>⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law instructed her. ⁷ And after Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was cheerful, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came softly, uncovered his feet, and lay down.</p>	<p>1. Ruth Follows Naomi's Instructions</p>
<p>⁸ Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet. ⁹ And he said, "Who are you?"</p>	<p>2. Boaz Abruptly Awakes</p>
<p>So she answered, "I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative."</p>	<p>3. Ruth Responds</p>
<p>¹⁰ Then he said, "Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter! For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich.</p>	<p>4. Boaz Blesses Ruth</p>
<p>¹¹ "And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman.</p>	<p>5. Boaz Answers Ruth</p>
<p>¹² "Now it is true that I am a close relative; however, there is a relative closer than I.</p>	<p>6. Boaz Follows Order Suggested in the OT Law</p>
<p>¹³ "Stay this night, and in the morning it shall be <i>that</i> if he will perform the duty of a close relative for you—good; let him do it. But if he does not want to perform the duty for you, then I will perform the duty for you, as the LORD lives! Lie down until morning." <small>NAU "Remain this night, and when morning comes, if he will redeem you, good; let him redeem you. But if he does not wish to redeem you, then I will redeem you, as the LORD lives. Lie down until morning."</small></p>	<p>7. Boaz Directs Ruth</p>
<p>¹⁴ So she lay at his feet until morning, and she arose before one could recognize another. Then he said, "Do not let it be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." ¹⁵ Also he said, "Bring the shawl that is on you and hold it." And when she held it, he measured six <i>ephahs</i> of barley, and laid it on her. Then she went into the city.</p>	<p>8. Boaz and Ruth Part Early in the Morning</p>
<p>¹⁶ So when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "Is that you, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her. ¹⁷ And she said, "These six <i>ephahs</i> of barley he gave me; for he said to me, 'Do not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" ¹⁸ Then she said, "Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out; for the man will not rest until he has concluded the matter this day."</p>	<p>9. Ruth Returns Home to Naomi</p>

Ruth 4:1-6 – Boaz Goes to the Gate to Secure Ruth's Future

Boaz promptly keeps his promise to pursue a Biblical solution for Ruth. When we know what we are to do, we do it.

11/10	Ruth 4:1-6	Boaz Goes to the Gate to Secure Ruth's Future
11/17	Ruth 4:7-11a	Boaz Redeems Ruth
11/24	Ruth 4:11b-13	The Blessing of Children Spoken and Illustrated
12/1	Ruth 4:14-17	The LORD Accomplishes His Plan
12/8	Ruth 4:18-22	David's Genealogy Through Boaz
12/15	Ruth 1-4	Ruth Summary

<p>^{4:1} Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there;</p>	<p>1. Boaz _____ Into Action in the Morning</p> <p>a. Goes to the gate [where people pass & business is conducted]</p> <p>b. Sits [and waits]</p>
<p>and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz had spoken came by.</p>	<p>2. The _____ Kinsman-Redeemer Comes By</p> <p>a. He came, as expected, as part of his daily routine</p> <p>b. Boaz would have gone early enough to precede him</p>
<p>So Boaz said, "Come aside, friend, sit down here."</p>	<p>3. Boaz Invites the Close _____ to Sit Down</p> <p>a. Initiates contact with the primary person</p> <p>b. Initiates the meeting</p>
<p>So he came aside and sat down.</p>	<p>4. The Relative _____ Down</p> <p>a. He would have understood it to be more than chat</p> <p>b. He would have anticipated a business conversation of some sort</p>
<p>² And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, "Sit down here."</p>	<p>5. Boaz Invites Ten _____ of the City to Sit Down</p> <p>a. He invites a large group of elders to the meeting</p> <p>b. These serve as knowledgeable witnesses of business discussion</p> <p>c. These serve as legal evidence of discussion results</p>
<p>So they sat down.</p>	<p>6. The Elders _____ Down</p> <p>a. Elders would understand this as normal, daily business</p> <p>b. Elders would do this regularly (Prov 31:23)</p> <p><i>"Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land."</i></p>
<p>³ Then he said to the close relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, sold the piece of land which <i>belonged</i> to our brother Elimelech.</p>	<p>7. Boaz Presents the _____ Business</p> <p>a. Naomi has returned from Moab</p> <p>b. Her land was sold (when? Unknown)</p> <p>c. The land belonged to "our brother" Elimelech (=implied redeemer responsibility)</p>
<p>⁴ "And I thought to inform you, saying, `Buy <i>it</i> back in the presence of the inhabitants and the elders of my people.</p>	<p>8. Boaz Shares the _____ Needed on the Part of the Relative</p> <p>a. Informs the relative of the opportunity and responsibility</p> <p>b. Makes the process easy for the relative – witnesses are present</p>
<p>If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know; for <i>there is no one</i> but you to redeem it, and I <i>am</i> next after you."</p>	<p>9. Boaz Calls for a _____ and Explains the Reason</p> <p>a. Make your choice. If you want to redeem this, then get at it.</p> <p>b. Either you or me. If not, let me know, as you are the closest, and I am next in line (and maybe the only other relative?)</p>
<p>And he said, "I will redeem it."</p>	<p>10. The Close Relative _____ to Redeem the Land</p>
<p>⁵ Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also buy <i>it</i> from Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance."</p>	<p>11. Boaz Shares the Additional Required _____</p> <p>a. When you buy the field from Naomi</p> <p>b. You must also buy it from Ruth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You marry her • Your first child will serve as heir of the dead husband
<p>⁶ And the close relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I ruin my own inheritance. You redeem my right of redemption for yourself, for I cannot redeem it."</p>	<p>12. The Close Relative _____ His Decision</p> <p>a. He would puts his own inheritance in peril</p> <p>b. (Apparently childless, the child would inherit his land too)</p> <p>c. He tells Boaz to proceed with redeeming it himself – "Go for it"</p>