

Ruth 4

May 21st, 2021

Discussion Questions

Before You Begin: Pray asking God to help you see and hear His word rightly and ask Him to reveal himself to you as you read through the designated chapters this week. Then, read through Ruth 4 and consider the discussion questions as you reflect upon what you read.

1. In Ruth 3, Boaz had expressed a desire to marry Ruth. So why did he choose to seek out the nearer relative? Describe Boaz's manner of dealing with the nearer relative (the kinsman) (**verses 1-4**).

2. After initially agreeing to buy the land, the nearer relative was reminded of the law of levirate marriage which required the kinsman-redeemer to marry the widow of a deceased man even if he was not a brother of the deceased.
 - a) Why did this closer relative refuse the right of redemption?

 - b) Did Boaz consider this gain for himself or for Ruth and Naomi? Did he acquire them and their land to possess them or to bless them?

 - c) How does this act of redemption point towards Christ's redemption of us?

 - d) How does Ruth's life change now that she is under the "ownership" of Boaz? How does our life change now that we are under the "ownership" of Jesus – both from an eternal standpoint as well as on a daily basis?

3. *Personal Reflection, sharing optional.* The situation turned out how Boaz had hoped. But it could have gone in another direction. Think of a time when choosing to do the right thing had the potential for an undesirable outcome. Consider the choice you made and the result. Did this experience impact other decisions you have made since?

4. Jesus gives us the ultimate, most perfect example of always doing the right thing (i.e. obey His Father) in the face of difficult circumstances. Read **Matthew 26:39**. How does this verse show the culmination of Jesus doing the right thing even when it was hard?

5. Ten elders were gathered to judge this case (**verse 2**). Boaz acted honorably and won the right of redemption, and with it Ruth as his wife. In **verses 11-12** what were the blessings the witnesses (the people and the elders) pronounced over Ruth and Boaz?

6. In **verse 13**, after the marriage of Boaz and Ruth, how was the prayer of blessing given by the people and the elders fulfilled?

7. Go back and re-read Naomi's declarations in **Ruth 1:13** and **Ruth 1:21**. Now compare these statements with what the women of Bethlehem express to Naomi in **verses 14-15**. How did the Lord not only restore Naomi's current situation but provide hope for her future?

8. God blessed Ruth and Boaz with a son, Obed, who would become the grandfather of King David, the King of Israel who was a man after God's own heart. Therefore, Ruth and Boaz would become the great-grandparents of King David. How did God further honor and reward Ruth and Boaz? In whose genealogy do you also find them according to **Matthew 1:1-16**?

Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer. Ruth 4:14