



## THE REDEMPTION

Ruth 4:1–17

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### RELATED SCRIPTURES

Ruth 1–3 | Psalm 111:9 | Ephesians 1:7–14

### STUDY FOR SERMON FROM 6.30.24

### SUMMARY

Naomi and Ruth are in a desperate situation effectively needing to sell the land that once belonged to Naomi's husband, Elimelech. Naomi identified Boaz as a redeemer—one who could not only buy the land—but as one who could provide for the widowed Ruth. Boaz pledged to provide for his family one way or another but pointed out that there was a family member who had a claim to Elimelech's land ahead of him (Ruth 3:12). Boaz arranged a meeting with the unnamed family member and inquired as to whether he wished to claim the land, and in fact, he did. Boaz mentions to the family member that he would have to provide for Naomi and Ruth along with the purchased land. Furthermore, if Ruth ever had a son, the rights to the land would revert to Ruth's son and away from the family member who paid to redeem the land. Seeing little "upside" to acquiring the land, the family member conceded the rights to Boaz. Boaz purchases the land and marries Ruth the Moabite; moreover, the Lord moves in their union and provides them with a son. Boaz made a substantial sacrifice; he gave of himself to rescue his eventual bride. He restored her and gave her a family, an inheritance, and a son to carry on that inheritance. This son, Obed, also became the grandfather to David, the King of Israel, whose line produced the King of kings, Jesus Christ. The parallels between Boaz and Jesus are striking. Boaz is a shadow picture of Jesus, who also made a substantial sacrifice for his bride, the Church. Christ's sacrifice did not gain him profit, but his bride was rescued, given a family, and an inheritance. We, the Church, have a Redeemer!

### GROUP QUESTIONS

Share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you from the sermon or your direct reading of Ruth 4:1–17.

Compare the actions of Boaz and the family member who had a greater claim on Elimelech's land. How are Boaz's actions different from those of the family member's and, ultimately, more like Christ?

Consider the story arc of Naomi. What has she been through, and where is she at the story's end? Does her story provide insight into how God operates in our lives? How so?

If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of this portion of Scripture, what is that thing?

### CLOSE IN PRAYER

As you pray, be sure to include today's themes in what you bring before God.