

INTRODUCTION

THE LIFE OF RUTH: LOSS, LOYALTY AND LOVE



Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch the introduction video. Take notes on overview of the book to use as you dive into personal study this week.



"...Do not urge me to leave you or return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

Ruth 1:16

READ THE WORD

Read the entire book of **Ruth** (chapters 1-4) in one sitting in the translation from which you typically read or study.

Ruth is set in the period of the Judges, though we are unsure exactly when. If you are unfamiliar with the period of the Judges, read Judges 2 to gain a brief back-story into this period. ("Our PW Ministry Study "Strong and Courageous" covers the book of Joshua--a time period that leads right up to the Judges. In fact, Othniel served as the first judge of Israel and is introduced in the book of Joshua.)

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

1. **Who wrote the book of Ruth and who are the main characters?**
2. **What genre of literature is the book of Ruth?**
3. **When did the events of Ruth take place? Since we are not entirely certain of exact dates, skim through the book of Judges and make a chronological list of the judges.**
4. **Where did the events of Ruth take place?**
5. **Why do you think it's important to study the Bible? As you go through this study, keep a list of reasons you discern God speaks to you through the book of Ruth. (Your list will be different than my list and the others doing this study with you.)**

SESSION ONE

SEEKING BEAUTY IN THE ASHES



Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch Session One. Take notes on overview of the chapter to use as you dive into personal study this week.



"...Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me."

Ruth 1:20

READ THE WORD

Read **Ruth 1** each day for five days. Read the ESV translation on three days and choose two additional translations the remaining days. At least two times this week add **Genesis 19:30-38** and **Deuteronomy 23:3-4** to your reading.

Highlight differences between different translations and circle words/phrases that interest or intrigue you for further study.

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

1. **How did Naomi end up in Moab?**
2. **What do you think the average Israelite thought about the Moabites?**
3. **Why do you think Ruth was willing to follow Naomi back to Bethlehem?**
4. **Read Exodus 22: 15-25. How does these verses correlate to Naomi?**
5. **Are you able to identify any places of bitterness in your own life?**
6. **How are you asking God to move to make your bitter situation sweet again? Pray right now and ask him.**

SESSION TWO

LEARNING TO GLEAN



Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch Session two.
Take notes on overview of the chapter to use as you dive into personal study this week.



“The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”

Ruth 2:12

READ THE WORD

Read **Ruth 2** each day for five days. Read the ESV translation on three days and choose two additional translations the remaining days. At least two times this week add **1 Timothy 6:11-16** and **Proverbs 31:10-31**.

Highlight differences between different translations and circle words/phrases that interest or intrigue you for further study.

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

According to the scripture you are reading this week, create a list for the following:

Men of Good Character & Women of Good Character

**Describe which traits above are found in:
Naomia, Boaz & Ruth**

Boaz is a “Christ-Type” character in scripture. Describe below what this means and how Boaz exhibits Christ-like attributes.

SESSION THREE

ROAD TO REDEMPTION



Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch Session three.
Take notes on overview of the chapter to use as you dive into personal study this week.



“...I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.”

Ruth 3:9b

READ THE WORD

Read **Ruth 3** each day for five days. Read the ESV translation on three days and choose two additional translations the remaining days.

Highlight differences between different translations and circle words/phrases that interest or intrigue you for further study.

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

1. **In verse one we see Naomi is seeking “rest” for Ruth. Given the context of this passage, what do you think Naomi means by “rest”?**
2. **Much of chapter three (3) centers on the idea of a “redeemer”. The Hebrew word is go’el. Look these passages up and write down one thing you learn about the concept of redemption in the Old Testament: **hint—you may need to read a few verses before or after for context (Genesis 48: 16, Exodus 6:6, Leviticus 27:9-25, Leviticus 25:47-55)**
3. **How does Old Testament redemption compare to the redemption Christ offers us?**
4. **How will being redeemed provide “rest” for Ruth?**

SESSION FOUR

FROM BITTERNESS TO ABUNDANCE



Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch Session four.
Take notes on overview of the chapter to use as you dive into personal study this week.



“Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!”

Ruth 4:14

READ THE WORD

Read **Ruth 4** each day for five days. Read the ESV translation on three days and choose two additional translations the remaining days.

Highlight differences between different translations and circle words/phrases that interest or intrigue you for further study.

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

1. **After reading the entire chapter for several days, write down five (5) differences between the way Boaz came to marry Ruth and the way modern day men and women come to marriage.**
2. **Are there any practical things we learn about marriage, as followers of Christ, from this chapter?**
3. **Look up these passages and write a one-sentence summary about each passage:**
 - a. **Genesis 35:16-20**
 - b. **Ruth 2: 8-9**
 - c. **1 Samuel 16:10-12**
 - d. **Luke 2:8-11**
4. **All of these passages occur in the same PLACE, known today as the Shepherd's Fields. Is there a place in your life where God speaks to you or moves in your life on a regular basis?**