

redeeming *Ruth*Week 4
The Threshing Floor

Read Ruth 3:1-18 for an overview of the passage.

Context

The harvest has ended and they are threshing the grain, the men typically sleep on the threshing floor to protect it from would be thieves. In a pagan setting, they would celebrate the harvest at this time with a party that was typically a display of debauchery and immorality but in a Godly household, it would be improper for women to be on the threshing floor.

Kindness

Reread Ruth 3:1-5 and reflect on the plan and motivation of Naomi. Consider how her attitude and focus have changed since chapter 1.

- Contrast her attitude between this passage and chapter 1, what caused the change?
- What agreements or objections do you have with Naomi's plan for connecting Ruth and Boaz?
- How is Naomi's plan related to God's providence?
- Can a community of believer model this in a discreet and Godly way?
- In what ways can a Godly woman follow Ruth's example in today's context?

Gratefulness

Read Ruth 3:6-18. Look at this text in two ways: First, consider the actions of Boaz and Ruth within the context of courtship. Up to this point Boaz has looked after Ruth as one would a sister and his priority remains her protection even after she makes her intentions clear. Second, I want you to meditate on these scriptures as an analogy of our redemption in Christ. Remember that Boaz initiated their relationship through his unmerited favor in chapter 2.

Relationship

- In what ways does Ruth's action display her character?
- How does Boaz's reaction and following actions display his character?
- Do you believe your actions are a good reflection of your character?
- Have you ever been disappointed by your own actions? How did this reflect your view of yourself and God?
- How has this interaction between Boaz and Ruth convicted you?

Analogy

- How does Ruth embody your submission to Christ?
- How would Boaz's statement in vs. 10 reflect Jesus' response to your submission? What do the other men represent?
- Is it natural for you to submit to God or is it a struggle for you?
- When have you felt reassured and comforted by Jesus' presence in your life?
- How has God continued to provide for you since you submitted your life to Him?

Reflection and Prayer

Reflect on the attributes of God and the elements of the Gospel you see in this passage. How do your thoughts and actions testify to the truth you see in these Scriptures? Pray that this scripture would transform your life and renew your mind.