

Background Information

Our story of Ruth went from tears to joy, hard labor to waiting and resting, fear to peace and assurance. Ruth obeyed the Word of God and put herself at the feet of her redeemer and entrusted herself to him.

The law provided for land to stay within a family, even if it had to be sold temporarily due to poverty. The seller, or a close relative could redeem the land later when they were able. If neither of these alternatives was possible, the land would be returned to the family in the Year of Jubilee, every fiftieth year. Land was not to be permanently sold because it ultimately belonged to God. Along with the land the Law provided for the nearest kinsman to produce an heir to carry on the family. The nearest kinsman was able, but not willing, not wanting to ruin his own inheritance. This opened the door for Boaz, which means, "*in him is strength*" to redeem Ruth for himself.

The Moabites were not to enter the congregation of the Lord "even to the tenth generation" (Deut. 23:3). The Book of Ruth closes with a ten-generation genealogy that climaxes by God's grace, with the name of King David! Jesus our redeemer was both willing and able to take us into His family and share His inheritance with His Gentile bride and make us a part of the family of God.

LOOKING FOR GOLD - WHAT DOES IT SAY?



The first step in mining for gold is getting the lay of the land. **Carefully observe the text** looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. **Mark your text** looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

Setting the scene: You may want to begin your reading with Micah 5:2, Gal. 4:1-5, Mat. 1:1-16

Ruth 4:1-6

1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there; and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz had spoken came by. So Boaz said, "Come aside, friend, sit down here." So he came aside and sat down. 2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down. 3 Then he said to the close relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, sold the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech. 4 And I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it back in the presence of the inhabitants and the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am next after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."

5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also buy it from Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance."

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."

Digging Deeper



Dig deeper using other resources such as a dictionary, concordance, maps & cross-references. Notate where you found it to share with the group. Look for commands to obey or questions to be answered. What does God want you to know about Himself?

BOILING IT DOWN – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



What **lesson** can I draw from my observations?

State each lesson in a simple sentence (aim for 10 words or less).

Ruth 4:1–6 _____

Ruth 4:7-12 _____

Ruth 4:13-22 _____



REFINED AS GOLD - HOW CAN I APPLY IT?

How should it change me? Ask yourself, “What **course of action** do I need to take to apply each lesson?” (aim for 10 words or less)

Ruth 4:1–6 _____

Ruth 4:7-12 _____

Ruth 4:13–22 _____

CHALLENGE: Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. Summarize your findings in your own words.



STORING UP YOUR TREASURE ...

What did God say? Mic. 5:2

Boaz was both w _ _ _ _ _ and a _ _ _ to become the redeemer.

Why did the nearest kinsmen not want to redeem the land? v 5 & 6

What two kings came from the family line of Boaz and Ruth?

What words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main points.

CHECKING FOR CLARITY: See if you can boil down the meaning of **each section** into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

Ruth 4:1-6 _____

Ruth 4:7-12 _____

Ruth 4:13-22 _____

BARS OF GOLD: State the main **point** of the passage in the form of a title.

FLEX YOUR MUSCLES: Can you discover an N.T. example of this O.T. truth?

HIDE YOUR TREASURE IN YOUR HEART

For your Maker is your husband, The Lord of hosts is His name;
And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the
whole earth. Isa 54:5

Radiating His Truth . . .

In order to qualify, the kinsman redeemer also *had to be able to pay the redemption price.* - Warren Wiersbe

