

## “Ruth – A Decision to Follow God” *Ruth 1:7 – Ruth 2*

### Open:

- Naomi reveals her plan to return home. **vs. 7-13**
  - Naomi advises her daughters-in-law to return home. **vs. 7-9**
  - At first, Orpah and Ruth decide they want to stay with Naomi. **vs. 10**
- Orpah and Ruth make their decisions. **vs. 11-18**
  - Orpah returns home. **vs. 14a**
  - Ruth decides to stay with Naomi. **Vs. 14b-18**
- Naomi and Ruth return to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest. **vs. 19-22**
  - Naomi was barely recognizable when she returned home. **vs. 19**
  - Naomi’s name change reveals to us that she felt the difficulties faced were a result of a lack of trust in God’s ability to provide. **vs. 20-21**

### Tran:

- Elimelech, Mahlon, and Chilion = A picture of those who are casualties of living in the flesh.
- Naomi = A picture of those who get a second chance to live life by faith.
- Orpah = A picture of those who choose to live their life in this world.
- Ruth = A picture of those who choose to follow live for God.
- Boaz = The kinsmen redeemer [Jesus Christ]

## I. New Land

- Naomi and Ruth’s decision to obey and return home was a decision to return to the place of God’s blessings. **Ruth 1:16-19a**
  - Bethlehem = House of Bread
- A. When we get saved, we receive citizenship to a new land. **Rev. 21:10-21** *“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, [11] Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; [12] And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: [13] On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. [14] And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. [15] And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. [16] And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. [17] And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. [18] And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. [19] And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; [20] The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. [21] And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.”*
- B. When we choose to obey God and return home, we are choosing to return to the place of blessing. **Lk. 15:17-14** *“And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! [18] I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, [19] And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. [20] And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. [21] And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. [22] But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: [23] And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: [24] For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”*

## II. New Lord

- When Naomi and Ruth chose to obey God and return home, they received a new master. **Ruth 2:7-18**
  - One who is caring. **vs. 8-9**
  - One who is compassionate. **vs. 10-11**
  - One who completes. **vs.12-14, 18**
- A. When we get saved, we are no longer slaves to sin, we receive a new Master. **Rom. 6:22-23** *“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. [23] For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*
- B. When we choose to yield ourselves to the Master, we will reap the blessings He has to bestow.
  - i. **Rom. 6:16, 18-21** *“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? [18] Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. [19] I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. [20] For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. [21] What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.”*
  - ii. **Rom. 12:1** *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”*
- C. We need to choose to stay submitted to the One who truly cares about us. **Gal. 4:8-9** *“Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. [9] But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?”*
  - Ruth chose to listen to her mother-in-law. She did not get greedy and seek success or profit somewhere else. **Ruth 2:19-23**

### Close:

- Decide you’re going to follow God.
  - In Salvation
  - In Service
  - In Sanctification
- Decide you’re going to stay where God’s blessings are.

### Phil. 4:19

*“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”*