

How can you use the story of Ruth as a source of encouragement?

Thank God today that your future is in His hands. Thank Him for the plans He has for you. Ask Him to give you the faith and hope to take the long-view of life and be willing to wait for Him to unfold the plans. Commit to Him the area of your life where you're struggling with hope.

Saturday

Please finish up the devotions and be sure you know this week's memory verse. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that God will use Pastor Charlie and the Genesis team to teach us all. Pray too that God will use the Love series beginning soon to form our church and help us reach out to our community.

Prayer Updates

Hospitalized & Surgeries this past week...

Bob Gubser – RCU, pray he gains strength to go home soon

Destinee File – Stanford, leukemia

Lelanni Mayo (17 months old) – surgery at Stanford 8/21, tumor removed from her back

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Bonita Montoya, Shirley Shine, Steve Slinkey, Ward Pitman

Home with the Lord

Heartfelt prayer is extended to Marian Stewart and family, in the loss of her cherished husband, **Stan Stewart**. Our church family will miss Stan serving joyfully as a Sunday usher. A "celebration of life" service is Sunday, August 24, at 2pm in Monschke Hall.

Please remember Gail and Elizabeth Black in prayer as they both grieve the loss of parents. Elizabeth recently lost her father, **Donald Robb**, and just last week, Gail lost his mother, **Martha Black**.

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center. **Subscribe to the Prayer Update: www.tlc.org/profiles**

finding HOPE

The Redeemer of Hope

Mark Spurlock • August 23 & 24, 2008
Ruth 4:1-16

A Redeemer of Hope is...

1. Someone who will _____

Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat there. When the kinsman-redeemer he had mentioned came along, Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," . . . Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, "Naomi . . . is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here . . . If you will redeem it, do so. . . For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line." "I will redeem it," he said. *Ruth 4:1-4 (NIV)*

2. Someone who will _____

Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth . . . you acquire the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property." At this, the kinsman-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it . . . Buy it yourself." *Ruth 4:5-6,8*

A Redeemer of Hope provides...

1. A new _____

Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, "Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property. . . Today you are witnesses!" Then the elders and all those at the gate said, "We are witnesses. . ." *Ruth 4:9-11a*

2. A new _____

"May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel . . . Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah." So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. *Ruth 4:11b-13a*

3. A new _____

Then he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. . . He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him. The women living there said, "Naomi has a son." And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. *Ruth 4:13b-16*

See Matthew 1:5-6,16

Have I made The Redeemer _____ ?

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” *Romans 3:23-24*

Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Ruth 4:1-4 & Mark 10:45. In what way did Boaz serve Ruth and Naomi?

In what way has Jesus served you?

How did Jesus both serve and redeem?

Thank God today that His Son came to serve, giving His life for you. Pray that your life will reflect His heart. Talk to God about the role service plays in your life. Ask Him where He'd like to use you to bring His hope to others.

Tuesday

Please read Ruth 4:5-8 & 1 John 2:1-2. Obviously Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice to redeem us – He died on the cross to pay our penalty.

What sacrifice did Boaz have to make to redeem Ruth and Naomi?

How can a sacrifice bring hope?

Recall a time in your life when someone sacrificed for you. How did that impact and encourage you?

Thank God today for sending His Son, Jesus, to be the sacrifice for your sins. Thank Him for those in your life who have sacrificed for you. Pray about the opportunities for sacrifice that you are facing. Ask God to give you the desire to sacrifice for others as a way to thank Him for His ultimate sacrifice. Pray that He will use your sacrifice to bring hope.

Wednesday

Please read Ruth 4:9-11a & II Corinthians 5:17-19. In what ways did Boaz' decision change the trajectory of Ruth's life?

What types of “foundations” have you tried to build your life on?

- Hard work
 - Education
 - Other:
 - A good name
 - Success
- Money
 People

What are the weaknesses of that type of foundation?

How does building your life on the foundation of Jesus' sacrifice for you give you hope?

Thank God today that you don't have to be mired or identified with the old. Talk to God about the remnants of old foundations that you are dealing with. Ask God to give you the faith to build on His foundation.

Thursday

Please read Ruth 4:11b-13a & John 8:34-36. Maybe your earthly family was great — or perhaps it was not! Regardless, in Christ, your spiritual family includes all believers! That means you are in the same family as Naomi, Boaz and Ruth!

Why do you think God included a new family as part of His redemptive plan?

What responsibilities do you have as part of a family?

How can you live out this week?

Thank God today that He has given you a new spiritual family. Thank Him for the opportunity to be family for someone who needs hope. Ask Him to guide you and help you to be a hope-filled part of the family of God.

Friday

Please read Ruth 4:13b-16, Proverbs 23:18, Jeremiah 29:11 & Matthew 1:1-16. Think of how stunned Ruth would have been to know that the Messiah would be her descendent! What does that tell you about God?

What are your hopes for the future? What are your fears?



continued 

over 



Memory Verse

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” *Romans 3:23-24 (NIV)*