

Faith: Trusting, Walking, Living*A Study in Ruth and Galatians***Ruth 4:11–22****Reread Ruth 4:1–10. Read Ruth 4:11–22.**

1. What did the elders of the city just witness?
2. The elders bless both Ruth and Boaz by linking them to Israelite ancestors. What are they praying for Ruth and Boaz?

Ruth (v.11, Gen. 29:31—30:24)

Boaz (v. 12, Gen. 38)

3. The witnesses invoke the name of Perez (the son of Judah and Tamar, a Canaanite woman). What parallels do you see between the stories of Tamar and Ruth?
4. How does God intervene directly and bless Boaz and Ruth (v. 13)?
5. In the beginning Naomi believes that God is against her (1:13) and that she is empty (1:21). How do the blessings of the village women show Naomi all that God has done for her?
6. How will God fulfill the prayer of the women in verse 14b? (v. 22, Matt. 1:16)
7. What high praise do the village women give to Ruth (consider the value of sons in the ancient world)? (v. 15b)

8. The genealogy at the end of the chapter points forward and continues the theme of blessing.
 - a. How is God going to bless Israel through Obed? (v. 17, 22)
 - b. Who is the ultimate descendant of this line? (Matt. 1:16)
9. Read Matt. 1:1–16. Why is it significant that Ruth is mentioned in the genealogy of Christ? (Consider Ruth's background, place in society, gender, etc.)
10. God often blesses our lives in surprising ways that exceed our human expectations. How has God done this for Naomi?

Chapter	Blessing
1	(v. 16)
2	(v. 18)
3	(v. 13, 18)
4	(v. 14, 17)

11. “Even in the darkest of times, God is providentially at work, preparing the way for the fulfillment of His promises. Naomi does not see this through much of the Book of Ruth but the reader is prompted to see the unseen hand of God at work, even when it appears to Naomi that all hope is lost. What a wonderfully comforting and assuring truth this is: our eternal well-being is dependent upon the perfections of our God, and not on our performance.”¹
 How has studying this book impacted the way you view the difficulties and challenges of your life?

1 Bob Deffinbaugh, Ruth: A Story of Redemption -- A Study of the Book of Ruth. <http://bible.org/seriespage/redeemed-ruth-4>