

## Everything Can Change

**Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.**

**1. No matter how dire the situation, take the initiative. God opens a door after you display faith and works.**

One day Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go out into the harvest fields to pick up the stalks of grain left behind by anyone who is kind enough to let me do it.” Naomi replied, “All right, my daughter, go ahead.” So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her [dead] father-in-law... **Ruth 2:2-3 NLT**

...faith by itself—that does nothing—is dead... **James 2:17 NCV**

**2. When it comes to relationships, quit falling for potential and instead look for patterns.**

“Where did you gather all this grain today?” Naomi asked. ...[Ruth] said, “The man I worked with today is named Boaz.” “May the Lord bless him!... He is showing his kindness to us... That man is one of our... family redeemers.” Then Ruth said, “What’s more, Boaz even told me to come back and stay with his harvesters until the entire harvest is completed.” “Good!” Naomi exclaimed. “Do as he said...” ...So Ruth worked alongside the women in Boaz’s fields and gathered grain... until the end of the barley harvest. Then she continued working with them through the wheat harvest in early summer. And all the while she lived with her mother-in-law. **Ruth 2:19-23 NLT**

**3. Get under spiritual authority. Only pursue a relationship that they encourage.**

One day Naomi said to Ruth, “...it’s time that I found a permanent home for you, so that you will be provided for. Boaz is a close relative of ours, and he’s been very kind [to you]... Now do as I tell you—take a bath and put on perfume and dress in your nicest clothes. Then go to the threshing floor [tonight], but don’t let Boaz see you until he has finished eating and drinking. Be sure to notice where he lies down; then go and uncover his feet and lie down there. He will tell you what to do.” “I will do everything you say,” Ruth replied. So she went down to the threshing floor that night and followed the instructions of her mother-in-law. After Boaz had finished eating and drinking... he lay down at the far end of the pile of grain and went to sleep. Then Ruth came quietly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. **Ruth 3:1-7 NLT**

...to let him know that you are available to him for marriage... **Ruth 3:4 MSG**

#### **4. The right person respects you even in private.**

Around midnight Boaz suddenly woke up... he was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet! "Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she replied. "Spread the corner of your covering over me, for you are my family redeemer." "The Lord bless you, my daughter!" Boaz exclaimed. "You are showing even more family loyalty now than you did before, for you have not gone after a younger man, whether rich or poor. Now don't worry about a thing... I will do what is necessary, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman...there is another man who is more closely related to you than I am. Stay here tonight, and in the morning I will talk to him. If he is willing to redeem you... Let him marry you. But if he is not willing, then as surely as the Lord lives, I will redeem you myself! Now lie down here until morning." **Ruth 3:8-13 NLT**

So Ruth lay at Boaz's feet until the morning, but she got up before it was light... for Boaz had said, "No one must know that a woman was here at the threshing floor." Then Boaz said to her, "Bring your cloak and spread it out." He measured six scoops of barley into the cloak and placed it on her back. Then he returned to the town. When Ruth went back to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, "What happened, my daughter?" Ruth told Naomi everything Boaz had done for her, and she added, "He gave me these six scoops of barley and said, 'Don't go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'" Then Naomi said to her, "Just be patient, my daughter, until we hear what happens. The man won't rest until he has settled things today." **Ruth 3:14-18 NLT**

Then Boaz told her, "Of course, your purchase of the land from Naomi also requires that you marry Ruth, the Moabite widow. That way she can have children who will carry on her husband's name and keep the land in the family." "Then I can't redeem it," the family redeemer replied, "because this might endanger my own estate. You redeem the land; I cannot do it." **Ruth 4:5-6 NLT**

**Conclusion: In one year of following God, your whole life can change.**