

God Hasn't Forgotten You

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

In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. Their two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there. Then Elimelech died, and Naomi was left with her two sons. The two sons married Moabite women. One married a woman named Orpah, and the other a woman named Ruth. But about ten years later, both Mahlon and Kilion died. This left Naomi alone, without her two sons or her husband. **Ruth 1:1-5 NLT**

Then Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had blessed his people in Judah by giving them good crops again. So Naomi and her daughters-in-law got ready to leave Moab to return to her homeland. With her two daughters-in-law she set out from the place where she had been living, and they took the road that would lead them back to Judah. But on the way, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back to your mothers' homes. And may the Lord reward you for your kindness to your husbands and to me. May the Lord bless you with the security of another marriage." **Ruth 1:6-9 NLT**

...Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi...Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more. **Ruth 1:11-18 NLT**

When Everything Goes Wrong

1. The wrong direction will always lead to the wrong destination.

Moab's a scrub bucket, I mop the floor with Moab... **Psalm 60:8 MSG**

So the two of them continued on their journey. When they came to Bethlehem, the entire town was excited by their arrival. "Is it really Naomi?" the women asked. "Don't call me Naomi," she responded. "Instead, call me Mara, for the Almighty has made life very bitter for me. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me home empty. Why call me Naomi when the Lord has caused me to suffer and the Almighty has sent such tragedy upon me?" So Naomi returned from Moab, accompanied by her daughter-in-law Ruth... **Ruth 1:19-21 NLT**

Naomi means "the pleasant one"

Mara means “to be bitter”

2. No matter how difficult your last season, there is always a new season which means a new harvest!

They arrived in Bethlehem in late spring, at the beginning of the barley harvest. **Ruth 1:19-22 NLT**

3. A distorted view of God always leads to a distorted view of life.

“...the Almighty has sent such tragedy upon me...” **Ruth 1:21 NLT**

“...the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.” **Ruth 1:21 NIV**

El Shaddai: “God is always ample, adequate, enough.”

4. It may take longer than you think, but God will bring you from bitterness to healing and redemption!

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, 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 guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! 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 in her arms 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 4:13-16 NIV**

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah’s wife, Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon. After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah. **Matthew 1:5-16 NIV**

Conclusion: When God is all that you have, He is still all that you need.

Message Notes: The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, New International Version. The Message, by Eugene Peterson. When God Doesn't Make Sense, by Craig Groeschel. Wilson Brother's garden information, BarnhardCotton.net, gardeningknowhow.com, harvesttotable.com