

## Overcoming Life's Struggles

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

"...the LORD himself has raised his fist against me." - Naomi (**Ruth 1:12b NLT**)

### **1. Make a decision to improve your situation.**

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. **Ruth 1:6-7 NLT**

### **2. Let go of those who leave, embrace those who stay.**

And again they wept together, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi. "Look," Naomi said to her, "your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. You should do the same." But 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 1:14-18 NLT**

### **3. Prepare now for your next season.**

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..." ...So Naomi returned from Moab, [with] Ruth...They arrived in Bethlehem in late spring, at the beginning of the barley harvest. **Ruth 1:19-22 NLT**

### **4. Work the field you find yourself in and God will open doors for you.**

Now there was a wealthy and influential man in Bethlehem named Boaz, who was a relative of Naomi's husband, Elimelech. 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... While she was there, Boaz arrived [and] ...asked his foreman, "Who is that young woman over there? Who does she belong to?" **Ruth 2:1-5 NLT**

**5. Act in faith and know that your redeemer is coming for you.**

[Ruth] said, "The man I worked with today is named Boaz." May the LORD bless him!" Naomi told her daughter-in-law. "He is showing his kindness to us as well as to your dead husband. That man is one of our closest relatives, one of our family redeemers." **Ruth 2:19-20 NLT**

Boaz took Ruth into his home, and she became his wife...the LORD enabled her to become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son. Then the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the LORD, who has now provided a redeemer for your family! May this child be famous in Israel. May he restore your youth and care for you in your old age. For he is the son of your daughter-in-law who loves you and has been better to you than seven sons!" ...they named him Obed. He became the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David. **Ruth 4:13-17 NLT**