



LADIES OF RENOUN

Faithfulness in the Unknown Choosing Faith Over Fear The Book of Ruth

"The presence of fear does not mean you have no faith." – Max Lucado

Big Idea: Faithful obedience in uncertain seasons positions us for God's greater story.

I. Faith Chooses Commitment Over Comfort (Ruth 1)

Application: Many women/mothers live in hidden sacrifice—choosing faithfulness in seasons that feel uncertain, unseen, or costly.

II. Faith Works While It Waits (Ruth 2)

Application: In uncertain seasons, faithfulness often looks like doing the next right thing, even when the bigger picture is unclear.

III. Faith Trusts God with the Outcome (Ruth 3–4)

Application: What feels like a small act of obedience may be part of a generational impact.

[Ruth 1:15-18] And Naomi said [to Ruth], "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; [Judges 11:24, 1 Kings 11:7, Jeremiah 48:7, 48:13, 48:46] [Moabite gods: Chemosh, Ashtar, and Molech] return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶ But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. [H: Elohim] ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." [1 Samuel 3:17, 1 Kings 2:23] ¹⁸ And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

[Ruth 2:1-3] Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, [3:2, 3:12] whose name was Boaz. [3:21, Matthew 1:5] ² And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." [2:10,13] And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." ³ So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.

[Deuteronomy 24:19] When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. [Leviticus 19:9, 23:22] It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. [Deuteronomy 14:29]

[Ruth 2:4-7] And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The Lord be with you!" And they answered, "The Lord bless you." [Psalm 129:7,8] ⁵ Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" ⁶ And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab." ⁷ She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."

[Ruth 4:14-17] Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, [Luke 1:58, 2:20] and may his name be renowned in Israel! [4:11] ¹⁵ He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." [1 Samuel 1:8] ¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. ¹⁷ And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." [Luke 1:59] They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Study Question [Challenge and Prayer]

Question: Where in your life right now is God inviting you to choose faithfulness, even though fear feels louder than faith?

Challenge: This week, identify one "hidden place" of uncertainty in your life and take a Ruth-like step of obedience—choose trust over retreat, prayer over panic, and faithfulness over fear, even if no one else sees it.

Prayer: Ask God to give you the courage [1] to trust Him when we cannot see the outcome, and [2] to help you choose faith over fear, obedience over comfort, and faithfulness in the small things - surrendering your unknowns to Him, believing He is writing a greater story than you can see.