

The Book of Ruth, Session 3

By Mike MacIntosh

Quickly, so you don't burn yourself on that candle if you have your Bibles handy, let's turn to the Book of Ruth, Chapter two, where we left off yesterday morning. And we just introduced, as Ron Hayford said, the love story that Ruth and Boaz have meant and they've fallen in love with one another. But now, as you come to this love story section and the book ends, you see that there's really a profound love story between God and the reader of this book, and that the story of these two people are nothing more than a bigger picture for what God has for you.

And I'd like to pray, Father, for these students that are here this morning for your Holy Spirit to speak to the hearts in a very fresh and deep way. I want to thank you, Lord, for Frances and this last session that he had and just the attitude and the spirit in the gymnasium walking up front here and seeing the students and stayed behind during the break, just about their heads and pray. And I'd like to thank you for Your Holiness that has been prevalent here the last three days that I've sensed.

And I'd like to thank you for the many students I've been able to speak with and have lunch with and talk with. And and I want to thank you for the quality of people that are in this school board that really have a purpose for their lives and are really trying to serve you and to know you more.

And I pray that you'll just bless them and bless their futures in Jesus name. Amen. Let's just back up for just a moment in verse 12, the Lord repay your work and a full reward be given to you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.

This is Boaz speaking to this woman he's in love with now. Ruth, remember, one of the attributes of Boaz was he's a very wealthy man. I'd like you to maybe grab a hold of his attitude that he has with that one statement. The Lord pay you work a full reward be given you by the Lord God of Israel. This statement right here under whose wings you have come for refuge. It would be very easy for a rich man to say, under my wings, under my money, under my influence, under my household.

But here's a man that is so successful. His real success is he realizes that everything he has come from God. One of the simplest lessons to learn, but one of the hardest lessons to learn is that God is the giver of all good gifts that come from heaven above. And and if you can grab that at this age by the Lord Chetry and you have your families, God will be able to trust you with more, because as you help more people, he'll give you more.

And the more you give away, the more he'll bring back to you. But when you always recognize that it is his, he's going to be honored in that and he'll be glorified in it. So she said in her

response, let me find favor in your sight, my Lord, for you have comforted me. And you've spoken kindly to your maid servant, though I am not like one of your maid servants now, Boaz said to her mealtime, come here and eat of the bread and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.

So she sat beside the Reapers and he passed parts grain to her, and she ate and was satisfied and kept some back. And when she rose up to clean, Boaz commanded his young men saying Let her glean even among the sheaves and do not reproach her. Also led grain from the bundles fall purposely for her. Leave it that she may glean and do not rebuke her. Every man that work for this rich guy, Boaz, realized that this old dude was in love.

There was no doubt about it. You spoilers what he is saying, and he must have been a good size, healthy kind of a guy because he told all the young men, don't go near, don't touch her. And you know, a guy can say, I'm going to go near and I'm going to touch her. I don't care if you fire me. So it had to be something more intimidating than losing your job. He must have been a good sized guy and he just let the young dudes know, don't mess, this is mine. And they didn't. And so then he goes and says, I want you to spoiler and drop your grain in your wheat behind and let her come behind you and pick it up. I want her to get some of my wealth, so. She gleaned in the field until evening and beat out what she had gleaned, it was about an effort, the Bali, and then she took it up and went into the city and her mother in law saw what she had gleaned.

So she brought out and gave to her what she had kept back after she had been satisfied. And her mother in law said to her, Where have you gleaned today? Where did you work? Blessed be the one who took notice of you. So she told her mother in law with whom she had worked and said the man's name with whom I work today is Boaz. And Naomi said to her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the Lord, who has not forsaken his kindness to the living and the dead.

And Naomi said to her, This man is a relation of ours. One of our close relatives are our kinsman. Now, I think is here. That had mentioned about how that you wondered if God had forsake her, forsaken her and and how you stop and look here that Neomi it was so bitter that her face changed. And when her girlfriends in the ladies in the town saw her, they immediately said, is this Naomi? And she said, Don't call me Naomi. I mean, pleasantness for God has dealt bitterly with me. I'm Mara. Bitterness was her name. Now, I had you in the last two days underlined three different statements of this woman. And you remember what they were. One of them was God has dealt bitterly against me. God has put his hand against me. God has dealt harshly with me. And here the minute she finds out good news, her attitude changes. Isn't that interesting? When things are going well, God loves me and blesses me and bless the Lord.

But when things go a little difficult, the attitude changes and we blame everything on God, or we get paranoid and say that God doesn't love me. And this is part of spiritual growth. These roller

coaster rides. When you're doing well, all praise the Lord when you're going down. Oh, what a bummer. And all of a sudden, as you start getting out of this roller coaster walk in the spirit, it begins to smooth out. And you realize in the good times and the bad times, like Francis was using Job as an example. Here is a guy that even his wife cursed him in a sense and said, why you just give up, just curse God and die. And every man needs a wife like that, I think. Don't you guys? Right. Sure. You know, so look at this lady's attitude. She's bitter because of circumstances and circumstances are either going to make you bitter or better. You get to choose. It's your life. It's nobody else's life. But if you can see God above circumstances, then you're going to see love and a purpose.

You're going to have hope and faith and you're going to trust him that whatever this painful situation is, it comes your way. It's going to be used by God to draw you closer to him. So she changes her attitude and she gets a little hottie here, too, in a way, Rutha Mobile has said he also said to me, you should stay close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest. And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter in law, It is good, my daughter, that you go out with these young women and that people do not meet you in any other field. Stick with this guy. He's going to be our meal ticket, is what she's really saying. So she stayed close by the young woman, women of Boaz to glean until the end of barley harvest and wheat harvest. And she dwelt with her mother in law and then Naomi, her mother in law, said to her, quote, My daughter, shall I not seek security for you that it may be well with you now, don't you run into people like this.

That's a good intention. But God was already our security. God took her to the right field. God introduced her to Boaz. Boaz fell in love with her. And here's the mother in law was just saying, go find a job and support us. And now when things are going really well, she says she is going to be the one that's going to provide the security. You know what? When the king of Sodom went to battle and and Abraham went to battle and he took his three hundred eighteen men and they came back and he got all the spoils, the jewels and the gems and got all these prisoners. And remember, the king of Sodom said he said, I'll tell you what, you take all the money and all the wealth. You just give me the men. Well, he is a sodomite. Of course, he wanted flesh and he didn't want the spoils.

He said, you keep the wealth. I just want those men. And Abraham said, no, I'll tell you what, I'm not going to take anything from you. I'll just take what it cost to go to battle. Lest you say that you made Abraham famous, now there's a principle there. You trust God for everything. Some seventy five, verse five and six says the promotion comes neither from the north of the south or the west. But the Lord God lifts up one man and he takes down another.

That means you don't need to promote yourself. You don't need to strive. You don't need to push yourself in any place in God's looking after you and all your life, you're used to somebody else. Mom and dad and brothers and sisters and family looking after you and then working a job. You learn a new lesson while you're working for somebody. The only way he's looking after you is by

writing that check. But ultimately, you grow out of that and you realize God's looking after me and my whole life is in God's hands.

No matter what comes my way. It had to pass through God and God had to OK to get to my life because you're a very precious person in God's eyes. And so he's not going to allow any temptation come to you except you're able to bear, but with that temptation he'll give you the means of escape. So when you start looking at life that this is an adventure and you're going forward with God and God knows everything that's going to come towards you, then you get the joy of trusting him, even if it's painful.

And so now Ruth is is really kind of probably fallen in love with this guy. To Boaz, who's young women you were with, is he not our kinsman? In fact, he's winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. So this tells you a good old Naomi did some recon and she did a little snooping out and found out this guy's schedule. So she's a matchmaker is what she is right now. And she knows I know what he's doing tonight.

And here's what you need to do. She's got this whole scheme and plan, and it looks like God might even use this scheme and plan. But she had done her homework, so he tells her what to do, wash yourself. Well, that's always good. When you're going on a date, you I get a little deodorant

on and spray yourself wash yourself, then anoint yourself and then put on your best garment, go down to the threshing floor. But do not make yourself known to the man until he is finished and eating. There's a wise woman. Let the guy have a glass of wine, let him eat his dinner, let the food settle in, let him relax and then hit him. Don't hit him on an empty stomach. And if you really want to get a guy's attention, take him to in and out and you've got him right there. Just drive through in and out and bless him.

So wait until he's finished eating and drinking. And then it should be when he lies down that you shall notice the place where he lies and you should go in and uncover his feet and lie down and he will tell you what you should do. And she said to her, all that you say to me, I will do now. This is pretty dangerous. The mother in law is asking this young, beautiful woman that turns all the guys heads wherever she goes to go into where he's sleeping and to lie down where he's sleeping.

It sounds pretty risque here, but I think that Neomi knew her daughter in law so well. That character was the issue. And she also had heard about her kinsmen, her relative, Boaz, that he was a man of character. Remember yesterday morning we saw that when he started the work day, he said, the Lord be with you. And the employees all said back to him, the Lord bless you. This man's character was Sterling. And all throughout the community, everybody knew that this was a righteous man.

So I think that that Naomi is trusting in the character of both of these people that some sexual encounter is not going to happen here. And again, I want to emphasize and emphasize and emphasize and emphasize character, your character, when you leave the university, you're stepping into a big, ugly world that has zipp when it comes to character and your character is going to be challenged in the bedroom to the boardroom. Your character is going to be challenged on your IRS papers you sign.

It's going to be challenged and how you talk about your neighbors, it's going to be challenged and how you take care of your house is going to be your character is going to be looked at from so many angles and you're going to be that Christian person. And they're looking for a way to see tarnished character, so you'll fall like them. And so I think that Naomi is dealing here with a real sense of character and both of these people, and she's going to trust that character mixed with God is going to bring something great out of it.

And she says, notice this, that he will tell you what you should do. So now as she's getting closer to going there, she goes down all the you say to me, I will do so. She went down to the threshing floor, did according to all that her mother in law instructed her. And after Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was cheerful, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain, and she

came softly and covered his feet and lay down. It happened at midnight that the man was startled and turned himself and there was a woman lying.

And to speak now for the normal man, that would be yabba dabba doo. Fred Flintstone's in town, you know. And. And what? There's a woman in here. You remember one statement that we saw yesterday. He said, Did I not tell the young men not to touch you? So it was probably very noticeable in the fields that harlots would come through the fields in. Some of the men would slip off at night into the fields with these harlots.

And so here he is, this man of character, and a woman comes into a sleeping in a startled him now for carnal man been no big deal, but because he's a man of character, it's a really big deal. She doesn't belong there. Who is she and what is she got in mind? She does not belong here next to me. So he cries out, Who are you? And so she answered, I am Ruth, your maid servant.

Take your maid servant under your wing, for you are a kinsman or a close relative. She's building here. Here is a Moabite, not from Israel. She's not a Jew. She's a Moabite. Remember this? She's not of the bloodline. And yet she understands the principle of the kinsman. You remember the story when the Sadducees came to tempt Jesus and the Sadducees were sad, you see, because they didn't believe in the resurrection and they came to Jesus and they said, there is

this guy that married a woman and he died and his brother married her. Then he died. And then the third brother married her and he died. The fourth brother married, a fifth brother, married her, and all the way up to seven brothers married her. And they didn't even believe in resurrection. So they say to him, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? I would have had a different question. What in the world was she cooking? I mean, they're dropping dead like flies at her house, you know?

And he said, you do it because, you know, not the scriptures nor the power of God. And that's the great way that you and I can do it if we don't know the scriptures nor the power of God. She has studied the scriptures. She understood to the Jew when a man died, the next of kin he was called Kinsman Redeemer had the right to redeem the property and the wife of this relative that had died and she as a Moabitess says to him, You're a kinsman, I want to come under your wing. And he had earlier that day said, you have come under the wing of God. And so in a sense, she was proposing to him totally unorthodox, let alone she wasn't a Jew asking to marry a Jewish man. Totally unorthodox. But this is God's love story. And God has a beautiful picture here that's developing. So as she is there, she says, I want to come under your wing and your kinsmen.

And he said, Blessed are you of the Lord. My daughter, actually, he was so in love with her. It was like hallelujah. You have in your heart for me what I have in my heart for you, man. This guy was he was flipping at this point. Now, watch how quickly the businessman clicks in here for this guy said for you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning and that you

did not go after young men, whether poor or rich. He saw character, you know, everybody knows who you are, you're beautiful, you've got a lot of sex appeal, you have a bright countenance, you're intelligent, you're humble, you're meek, you're serving your mother in law.

You're from a foreign country. You know, nobody. And you didn't even chase after men, which would be the norm for the women around there, even if they were rich or poor. You have character. This really stuck out to this man. Now, had she not had character, this last chapter probably wouldn't have unfolded the way that it unfolded. Now, my daughter do not fear I will do for you all that you request and notice this simple little word for all a well, all the people of my town, Bethlehem, know that you are a virtuous woman.

Otherwise, if all the people of this town knew in every restaurant, in every synagogue, in every farmhouse, in every field, in every place, they talked about this woman, she was the center of attention. She is a virtuous woman. Character. Now, you can have people talk about you because you're a rat, a liar, a thief, you're unstable, you're a druggie, you're dopey, or that you are a God fearing person.

I was thinking of something else as the testimonies were going on. Is that there's a whole nother group of people that are your age in Southern California and they're not taking the discipline that

you're taking for four years or six years or five years to get through school, and they're out partying. And they're out drinking and smoking their dope and they're doing their flashily deal, but when the four years are over. And you both stand side by side on the streets of Los Angeles.

You're going to be bright, they're going to be dark, you're going to be character, they're going to be unvirtuous. And what you don't see right now is that God. Is loving you through your education and is preparing you that instead of people saying there's another casualty, they're going to look at you and say, you know what, there's somebody we can trust in this company. You know what? That couple, we can trust them. And all of a sudden you're going to look different to everybody else as the world gets darker, but it's kind of hard to see as you're sitting in a hot, sweaty gymnasium with three or four days.

Listen, the guest speakers, I want to encourage you, let God shape your character. And sometimes it takes pain to shape your character. Do you all remember the bomb that went off at Oklahoma City? Remember that just a few years ago, the day that that bomb went off, there was a funeral service at the Anaheim pond for Bob Henry of Henry is twenty four years old, I guess. Twenty five. And he's a policeman from Newport Beach Police Department.

And he was sitting in a Lutheran church parking lot late at night and the second shift and he opened up his sack. Lunch, was eating a sandwich and old beat up car pulled up at the cul de sac at the end there, right off the Dover Drive in Newport, looking over the Back Bay. And he watched the guy who wasn't paying too much attention and he noticed the guy slid out of the passenger seat door instead of the driver's door.

He thought that was a little unusual. He went to his trunk and he brought out a case of beer and started opening beer and drinking it. And he realized, I can't let this guy just be drinking beer in public like that. I'd better go investigate. And so the guy saw him come out of his car across the street, jumped into his car to get away, and he stopped him. He said, get out right now. And he slid out across the passenger seat, came out the door.

He said, I've got to come out this other door. This one's broken. But what Bob didn't see is that when he came out of the car, there's a three fifty seven Magnum on the seat and he brought it out with him and turned it right at Bob. And they started wrestling and the man hit him and tripped him, threw him down. And as he went down, he hit his head on the curb. And then he took Bob's revolver, his nine millimeter, and shot him point blank in the head and killed him.

Young guy, young wife, young baby, tragic story. I was on my way from the pond to be with his mother and father and his family to the memorial service with a small group. And I got lost getting to the to the. A cemetery and Cannex news was on that just said that this bomb had gone off and and this tragedy happened the next day I was underneath that building where they're bringing the bodies out is one of the ugliest things you could ever imagine.

There aren't words to describe the spirit that was in Oklahoma City hovering over that building, many, many tragedies and stories that are just amazing that that you could hear out of that. But there is one where I went underneath the building as debriefing some federal officers. And this one officer took me all the way to the very core of where they were working so meticulously to save lives. And there was a man there that the building had fallen on into as a half of a human, half of the head, half of everything.

And the rest of us just crushing his arm, was hanging down and they had just spray painted pointing so that the people could come and try to work. It probably take two days just to get his body out. And about 20 minutes later, standing with these FBI guys and DEA and ATF agents and marshals, a police officer came out, worked his way out of the bottom, up to the edge of the building, to the sidewalk where we were. And he screamed out, I hate this building. And he just flipped right in front of me while I looked at all the other officers and their kind of macho. And they couldn't go over and hug him or something like you would want to do. And like I wanted to

do. And I realized, well, there's protocol here, but this man is really hurting. And so I just want to put my hand on his shoulder. And I said, pretty stressful right now.

It's all pretty ugly for all of us. So what happened? He said, my best friend, he's half of a man. And it was the man we had just found. He said, I grew up with him. We went to school together. He was my partner. We rode together in the same car and he just he was going nuts. And all of a sudden I sense Jesus standing right there underneath the building in Oklahoma City. And the love of God just was right there, and I looked everybody was stunned, they didn't know how to help him.

Most of these officers been up two or three days without sleep in the lurch, said just go hug him. Oh, that's going to look really good. And I hugged him. I said, let's go outside and let's talk. And he wept and sobbed and cried and screamed, his life will probably never, ever be the same. That's one of ten thousand stories that happened at that place. But as your brother, I can tell you that Jesus was at the epicenter. He was loving people, he was encouraging people, he was blessing people, he was right there. And he wants to be right there for any pain or tragedy that comes your way, and when it does, if you turn away from him, you're going to get bitter. If you turn towards him, you can get better. Trust him. My message I was thinking here all this week, I've wondered, have I missed you? But I realize that what God has in my heart to speak to and Ron said he knew it is going to say right away.

That's because I don't usually repeat myself. I always have a new message wherever I go. And this message about Ruth for you is not one where I'm having you jumping up and give me a J. Give me an E, give me an S us and let's have fun and games. It's one that's planting a seed deep in your heart that you'll always remember this love story that no matter what comes your way, God is there and he's got a plan.

Let's see how this plan comes to a conclusion here. We've noticed that all the people of our town know that you are a virtuous woman. Now, is it true that I am a kinsman. However, there is a kinsman or a relative closer than me. Stay this night and in the morning. It shall be that if he will perform the duty of a close relative for you, that's good. Let him do it. He didn't mean that. But if he does not want to perform the duty for you, then I will perform the duty for you as a Lord. Lives lie down until morning. So she lay at his feet until morning to a rose before one could recognize it's still dark. And he said, Do not let it be known that a woman came to the threshing floor, his reputation, and he said, Bring the shawl that is on you and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six fifths of barley and laid it on her.

And then she went into the city. When she came to her mother in law, she said, Is that you? My daughter? And she told her all that the man had done for her. And she said, the sexy face of Bali he gave for me. And he said to me, do not go empty handed to your mother in law. And then she

said, and this is a wise old mother in law. Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out, for the man will not rest until he has concluded this matter this very day. She knew that this man was madly in love with Ruth in the size of the gift that he gave her. He said, don't worry, don't worry.

By the end of the day, this thing will be done. I can tell that this guy is going to work any kind of a deal he can work to get you. Now, the last chapter, Boaz went up to the gate and he sat down and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz had spoken came by. So Boaz said, Come inside, my friend, sit down here. So he came aside and sat down. I think this is kind of clever because like Naomi knew where he was sleeping that night, I think this guy knew the pattern of the this relative and that he would come by the city certain time of the day and he made it to the gate.

First, you see, the gate was where the elders of the city would meet and any business transactions that would take place would be done right there. So he went first to the elders and befriended them. And when the man came walking by, he said, Hey, friend, come here. So he's buttering him up right now and watch what happens as he unfolds his little story. Sit down.

And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, sit down here. So they sat down and he said to the close relative, Neomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, sold the piece of

land which belonged to our brother, Elimelech. And I thought to inform you saying buy it back in the presence of the inhabitants and the elders of my people. If you redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not redeem it, well, tell me that I may know if there is no one but you to redeem it and I'm next to you.

And he said, I'll redeem it. I get the picture here. He's really setting this guy up. I could care less. You know, I just found out about this. You know, there's Naomi. Yeah, I know that story. And her husband. Yeah. Yeah. Your next of kin. You should redeem it. Did you know that your next of kin and the guy's property? No, I really didn't know that. You mean I can. I'll do it. And at that point, Boaz heart probably sunk because if you took the property, you had to take the woman and he's wondering, oh, I've lost it, but look how clever he is, he said. Boaz said on the day that you buy the field from the hand of Neomi, you must also buy it from Ruth. The Moabite is a pagan, a heathen, somebody outside of Israel, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance and the close relative or the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself.

Plus I ruined my own inheritance. You go ahead and take my right of redemption for yourself. I cannot redeem. And what are you saying? Here is what Boaz wanted to hear. He surrendered and said, I give up my right. If I take that property and I take Ruth as my wife and she's not even a Jew, my wife will kill me. And if we have babies, then my sons will only get a half of an inheritance.

They won't get the full inheritance. You go ahead and redeemer all OK? I will. I guess he's really set this guy up now. Watch what happens here. Then the close relatives said you take it. This was the custom in former times in Israel redeeming. Concerning redeeming and exchanging to confirm anything, one man took off of his shoe or his sandal and he gave it to the other guy. I guess this is where the term a stinky deal really comes from right here, hand in that shoe.

And this was a confirmation in Israel. Therefore, the close relatives said to Boaz, buy it for yourself. So he took off his sandal and Boaz said to the elders and to all the people, you are witnesses this day that I have bought. But all that was Elimelech and that was Chileans and melons from the hand of Naomi. Moreover, and he didn't need to say this, but he wants it in the city records. Moreover, Ruth the Moabite is the widow of Melun I have acquired as my wife.

He wanted that down in writing. He loved her so much to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance. He had already had plans for the future. Honeymoon night was coming. Soon the name of the dead may not be cut off from among the Brethren and from his position at the gate. You are witnesses this day and all the people who were at the gate and the elders said We are witnesses.

The Lord make the woman who is coming to your house like Rachel and Leah hears a prophecy. And it came to pass the two who built the House of Israel and may you prosper and Ephrata and be famous in Bethlehem. May your house be like the house of Peres. There's a prophecy whom Tamar bore to Judah because of the offspring which the Lord will give you from this young woman an age gap. But they're going to have many babies. So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife.

And when he went into the Lord gave her conception and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, Blessed be the Lord who has not left you this day without a close relative, and may his name be famous in Israel. And it was and may he be to you every store of life, inertia of your old age for your daughter in law who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him. Ultimately, this is a prophecy for you concerning Jesus.

Naomi took the child, laid him on her bosom, became a nurse to him, and also the neighbor woman gave him a name saying, this is a son born to Naomi. And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David. This is the genealogy of Perez. I remember they prophesied that she would be blessed like Perez. Perez begat Hezron, Hezron begat Ram. Ram begat Minadab, Minadab begat Nashon. Nashon begat Solomon. Solomon begat Boaz, the Man and the love story. Boaz begat Obed. Obed begat Jesse. Jesse begat David. Ruth was the great grandmother of King David. Now, what do you see here, she wasn't a Jew. If the Jews could have seen this genealogy for what it was, they would have learned the lesson of grace that God

was showing, that he was bringing grace to the gentiles and giving blessings as much as he was to the Jews.

But what happens from King David's lineage? The Lord Jesus Christ is born. And Jesus came through Ruth, and had there not been a famine in the land, Elimelech wouldn't have taken his wife and boys to Moab and had the two boys not died. And the father, Naomi, wouldn't have come back to Bethlehem with Ruth and had they not been poor. It was the poverty that drove her out to the lowest job of gleaning behind the people that worked in the fields is like you're saying, you work so hard to get you to school.

There's a plan and all that for Sara. There's a plan and everything you're involved in right now. And yet it was painful for her as a young, beautiful woman to be disciplined, to say no to all the guys that were hitting on her. It was painful for her to not have a social life while she looked after old bitter Naomi. And it was great when she realized this older man loved her but was a gentleman with character and had God as her utmost interest. And when she learned by studying like you're doing it, Biola, the ways of the Lord, that a kinsman redeemer had God's blessing to redeem, that she could, by God's grace, be brought into Israel. She was really a free lady.

And for her to go down and take a bath and put on this beautiful new dress and to look as pretty as she could in the middle of the night and to lay down at this man's feet, her heart must have really been thumping, knowing that this God that I love because I watched him through my father in law. I watched him to my brother in law. I watched him through my husband. And I've watched him to my mother in law has really got a heart of love. And this is all I could ever dream of. And when she knew the character of Boaz was a gentleman and he was going to try to date rape her or something, she was home free. I want to be under the cover of your wings. Your character is so important. As you go through life, you will have pain and setbacks, you may have bankruptcy, you may have to glean behind the people in the fields and work some Mickey Mouse job.

But in it all, God has arranged all the people you need to know and all the people you need to meet. And it's all going to end up full of love and blessings and grace. You see, the picture is even a little bit bigger than that when you back up from it. The picture is yes, King David was the great grandson of this beautiful man by this woman. And yes, Joseph Murray come along and meet and baby Jesus is born.

But do you understand that Jesus Christ is your kinsman redeemer? That's why the whole story is there. You see, you're going to die. And unless somebody comes along and redeems you, you're going to be sold in slavery to the devil. And yet, Jesus Christ was the only begotten son of God,

how could he be the kinsman redeemer, son of man, son of God, born of a virgin? He's from the human race. But yet he didn't have Joseph's blood in his veins.

And we know that it's the male genes and chromosomes that make the dominant blood type for a man had just been the father of baby Jesus, then in Jesus vein would have been sinful blood going all the way back to Adam. But yet Jesus had to be born of a woman so that he could be your kinsman next in line. And so since the devil can't redeem you to take you to heaven, Jesus paid the price of being son of a man, to be your brother, to be the captain of your salvation, to be one who loves you.

That is redeeming you. And God looks and says you're next in line and there's nobody else that can redeem planet Earth. Remember the story that Jesus said? A man went on a business trip and he stumbled over a treasure and he sold everything he had about the entire field so you could buy the treasure? Well, the earth is the field that you are the treasure. He gave his only begotten son, sold everything to get you and Jesus, according to God's word, is next in line and the devil can't have you.

He's paid a price for you. That's his great love story for you, that God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever would believe in him would never perish, but have

everlasting life, for God's sake, not his son, into this world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. But this is the record that God has given to us eternal life. And this life is in his son.

And whoever has the son of God has eternal life, but whoever does not have the son of God has condemnation already. And so the great love story of Ruth and Boaz is something you can spend some time in and read it over and over and over and see something differently through it all. You see God's great love story for you, that he is your kinsman redeemer. And when the land look like he was slain in Revelation, Chapter five steps up to the throne of God and God is holding the scroll out and John the Apostle weeps and the angel says, Why are you weeping?

He said, Because there's nobody worthy on the earth or under the Earth or under the sea to take the scroll from God's hand. Nobody could redeem the scroll that would take back the earth for Jesus. And then the lamb was the only one worthy, the kinsman redeemer, be grateful today that you're in school. Because when you get out of school, you're going to meet hundreds of people your own age. They have no light on inside because they didn't discipline themselves to get into the word of God like you're doing and have a purpose for your life like you're doing.

And that's where your evangelism is going to happen. It's not going to just be ministry, quote unquote. It's going to be you living your life with the lights out in every house around you and apartment around you and everybody in their cubicle. And you will be the light and the word will flow to a lifestyle. Jesus, your kinsman redeemer has paid a great price to love you like Boaz loved Ruth.

Father, I want to thank you for the privilege and honor to be a part of Francis and Steve and their messages and thank you for the privilege of meeting such quality people here, and I just pray for these young men that you'll make them strong and righteous men. They'll be like Boaz, they'll have a purpose for their money, purpose for their business, they'll treat the people around them kindly with good words in the morning, blessing whoever they work with. They'll be gentlemen with the women. They'll be honest and open and recognized by the elders of the city.

There'll be men that can sit down at any time and talk with people like Boaz, but there'll be soft and gentle pray for the women that they will have character like Ruth. Their beauty will not be something they'll use to manipulate to get what they want. They'll be humble and meek, they'll be great servants like this woman, and I pray that you'll prosper. All these ladies and all these men with many, many children that will bless Jesus Christ. And I pray that you'll prosper them. And I pray, Lord, a special grace when pain and suffering come their way. That they will be better people, not bitter people, may they learn the great love that you have for them and may they always share that light of truth from your word in Jesus name. Amen

[End of Recording].