

Bible Study Ruth 4

- What do we learn about Boaz's character from the way he manages the negotiations to become Ruth's guardian-redeemer (4:1-8)?
- Ruth and Boaz seem to give their firstborn son into Naomi's care to bring him up (4:16-17). What do you think motivated such an extraordinary gift?
- The elders and people elevate Ruth to the status of the great matriarchs of Israel (4:11). The women of the town say that she is better than seven sons to Naomi – seven being seen as the ideal number (4:14-15). What prompts such remarkable praise?
- As well as looking forward to tell us that Obed was the grandfather of David, the book looks back to the patriarchs, setting these events in the context of the whole history of Israel (4:18-22). What does this suggest about how God works?
- Ruth and Naomi's circumstances have been radically transformed since the end of chapter 1. Look back on your own life, can you think of situations where God has turned things around for you or been at work in your life?

Prayers

Give thanks to God for the times that he has been at work in your life and all that he has done for you.

There are many people in our world like Ruth and Naomi who live in poverty lacking the most basic of necessities. Pray for those in our world who are the most vulnerable – widows, orphans, the elderly and disabled. Perhaps choose a country or people group that you feel particularly need prayer.