

## Conclusion

- A. Jesus brings this concept of kinsmen-redeemer forward.
  - i. Matt. 12:48-49
  - ii. Mark 10:29-30
  
- B. Boaz's life demonstrates what it means not to have the Law written on our hearts.
  
  
- C. Have you drawn near?

## LIVE THE STORY

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

### Love the Gospel

- What does the foreman know about Ruth? What doesn't he know?
- How might this scene remind us of the betrothal scenes with Rebekah, Rachel, and the Samaritan woman (John 4)? How is it different?
- How does Boaz know Ruth, though he had never met her?
- How do Ruth and Naomi, at the end of the chapter, have to live in the "already/not yet" until the final harvest?

### Live the Gospel

- In what ways might the church today have aspirations far too small for living out righteousness? Why do you think this is?
- How does Jesus bring the concept of kinsman-redeemer forward to the New Testament? What does that mean for us?
- How many ways can you identify in the text that Boaz went beyond the letter of the Law to the heart of God in his righteousness?

### Advance the Gospel

- How does this story invite all to draw near to Christ?
- How does it call us to live before the world?

## Ruth: Resurrection, Righteousness, Redemption

### *Reliable, Righteous, Resurrected*

Jerry Cisar — May 16, 2021

Text: Ruth 2

## Introduction: Let me introduce you to Boaz

- A. The "Meet Cute"
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. Boaz
  - i. "mighty in strength"
    - a) The ESV: "worthy"
    - b) NIV: "of standing"
    - c) JPS: "of substance."
  
  - ii. A close relative in Elimelech's family
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. Boaz didn't merely keep the letter of the Law, but, in the spirit of the Law, he went above and beyond it.

*Boaz demonstrate for us what it can look like in a dark and perilous world when God's people live, not according to the letter of the law, doing the minimum, but according to the Spirit of the Law doing above and beyond.*

## I. Reliable Ruth (2-3)

- A. Ruth intends to do something about Naomi's emptiness.
  - i. "Now let me go to the field..."
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. "As luck would have it..."
    - a) Providence or fate?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - b) Remember, Ruth doesn't know anything about Boaz.

## II. Righteous Boaz (4-18a)

### A. Enter Boaz (4-7)

#### i. The Greeting

*Boaz is devoted to the Lord and is functioning as a part of the kingdom of priests... blessing others.*

- ii. Who's that? A Moabite... did I mention a Moabite?
  
  - iii. The law provided a means of caring for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. Ruth qualifies under all three!
  
  - iv. How will Boaz respond?
- ### B. Ruth and Boaz Meet (8-13)
- i. Boaz responds with righteousness.
    - a) Boaz embraces his responsibility for this poor widow.
    - b) He protects her.
    - c) Drink freely!
  
  - ii. Such kindness leaves Ruth baffled and grateful.
  
  - iii. Boaz knew Ruth by her deeds (11-12).
    - a) Ruth 1:16-18
  
    - b) Acts 10:1-4
  
  - iv. Ruth's response

### C. Boaz goes beyond the law.

- i. Boaz has invited Ruth to table fellowship.
  - a) Deuteronomy 23:3
  - b) Ruth is fully satisfied.
  
- ii. Boaz instructs the young men.

John Chrysostom: "See, for instance, what befell Ruth, how like it is to the things which belong to us. For she was both of a strange race, and reduced to the utmost poverty, yet Boaz when he saw her neither despised her poverty nor abhorred her mean birth, as Christ having received the Church, being both an alien and in much poverty, took her to be partaker of the great blessings."

### D. Boaz models a righteousness that did not abolish the Law but fulfilled it not only in letter but beyond that to the very heart of the Law... of God Himself.

## III. Resurrected Naomi (18b-23)

- ### A. Naomi who has been in the tomb of despair now finds herself at the entrance to an open tomb.
- i. Naomi has tasted the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. The Lord met her in her grief and fed her.
  
  - ii. Naomi sees a possible redeemer.
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- ### B. Ruth has an idea of her own.
- i. Ruth would do well by herself to catch one of the young men.
  
  - ii. Naomi and Ruth are now living by faith in in the already/not-yet.