CHAPTER 9
The Faith of a Foreign Woman
RUTH 1-4

THE STORY
Introduction

Have you ever been disappointed with God?
In this life we will have disappointments.
How do we handle our disappointments?
I. Watch for God’s Fingerprints.
RUTH 1-2
The story of Ruth begins with a young couple.

- Elimelech – “My God is King”
- Naomi – “Pleasant or Lovely”
- They have two sons – Mahlon and Kilion.
- They have great expectations, but life doesn’t go like they planned.
- Naomi is left alone in a foreign land.
Naomi and Ruth put their trust in the Lord. Notice the “coincidences” that followed.

- They returned to Bethlehem just as the harvest was beginning. 1:22
- Ruth goes to pick grain and it just happens to be in the field of Boaz. 2:3
- Boaz just happens to arrive in the field. 2:4
- Boaz has heard about Ruth’s loyalty and character and he blesses her. 2:11
- Boaz just happens to be their closest relative – their kinsman redeemer. 2:20
God is at work in the circumstances of our life.
II. Wait for God’s Timing. RUTH 2-3
Ruth and Naomi found God’s provision by waiting.
Waiting doesn’t mean inactivity – doing nothing.
Ruth consulted Naomi and followed her counsel.

• Stay in the field of Boaz. 2:22
• Wash and put on your best clothes and perfume. 3:3
• When he lies down, go and uncover his feet. 3:4
• Ruth obeys Naomi. “I will do whatever you say.” 3:5
• Ruth was asking to be taken under Boaz’ wings.
It takes wisdom and discernment to know when to wait and when to move ahead when we walk with the Lord.

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25
III. Wonder at God’s Plan. RUTH 4
Boaz is given the right to purchase the property and marry Ruth. 4:8-10

The Kinsman Redeemer is a Messianic type.

• He must be a blood relative.
• He must be able to purchase the forfeited inheritance.
• He must be willing to buy back what was lost.
• He must be willing to marry the wife of the deceased kinsman.
Boaz and Ruth marry.

- They have a son, Obed, who will be the grandfather of King David.
- Ruth, the Moabite, will be an ancestor in the line of Jesus Christ.
- Boaz’ is the son (or descendendent) of Rahab, the prostitute. Matthew 1:5-6, 16
- It is an amazing story.
Conclusion

We never know how God may use us to accomplish his plans.

When life doesn’t go as you planned, don’t give up on God.

• Watch for his fingerprints.
• Wait for his timing.
• Wonder at his plan.
What do we learn from this chapter of the story?

• Even in the darkest times, God is still at work.
• The gospel is for all people.
• Jesus is our Kinsman Redeemer.
THE STORY