

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commitment reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.

Monday, April 27th – Ruth 1

This week we will study the Book of Ruth. We will start and finish it this week, bringing our journey to 9 books of the Bible completed. Verses 1-5 set up the story for us. When does this story take place (vs. 1)? This is why it is placed after the book of Judges. What happened and who was affected (vs. 1)? Where did they go (vs.1)? What happened while they were there and about how long were they there (vss. 2-5)? Read verses 6-9. What changes occur and what does Naomi decide to do? What does she tell her daughters-in-law? How do they respond and what is the final decision (vss. 10-15)? But what is Ruth's response to Naomi (vss. 16-17)? What was Naomi's response to Ruth's declaration (vss. 18-19)? So, what happens when they return to Bethlehem (vs. 19)? What is Naomi's response (vss. 20-21)? The name Naomi means "pleasant," while Mara means "bitterness." What bitterness had Naomi experienced in her time away from Bethlehem? What does this tell us about God? Did God take away Naomi's husband and sons? Or was death a natural occurrence in these cases? Finish by reading verse 22. This sets us up for what is going to happen, beginning tomorrow. What does this reveal about us and the way we view things when our lives have seasons of bitterness in them? How does this point to our need for Jesus and for the gifts he offers us? What does Jesus offer that takes away the bitterness? Not the grief, but the bitterness? Where do you feel God has given you the short end of the stick? Spend some time in prayer, asking Him to help you let go of the bitterness and deepen your trust in Him.

Tuesday, April 28th – Ruth 2:1-14

Now that Naomi is home with her daughter-in-law Ruth, it is time to get back to living. Who is introduced and what does Ruth suggest she do to keep them from starving (vss. 1-3)? Did you notice in verse 3 that she just happened to find herself in Boaz's field? What happens next (vss. 4-7)? Never let it be said that hard work is not attractive! How does Boaz care for Ruth (vss. 8-9)? Why do you think he instructs her to stay on his field with his women? Some things never change, do they? What is Ruth's response to Boaz's instructions (vs. 10)? What does she ask him? What is Boaz's response and reasoning for doing this for her (vs. 11)? Boaz then blesses Ruth. What blessing does he give (vs. 12)? How does Ruth respond to this kindness (vs. 13)? And the blessings keep on flowing. What happens next (vs. 14)? This tells us a lot about God and those whom he protects and cares for. What was revealed to you today about God? What did we learn about humanity? We really can get it right sometimes. What does this reveal about Jesus (vs. 14b)? Do we not get fed until we are full and had enough? How does this part of the verse compare to Luke 9:17? Ponder today the abundance God has given you. Then spend some time in prayer, thanking Him for feeding you spiritually to overflowing and physically for what you need.

Wednesday, April 29th – Ruth 2:15-23

We pick up where we left off yesterday. Ruth has gone back to work. What instructions does Boaz give (vss.15-16)? What was the result of this generosity (vss. 17-19)? What did Naomi say about the amount Ruth brought home and what does she learn about Ruth's benefactor (vss. 19-20)? How is Boaz protecting Ruth? What are Naomi's instructions to Ruth (vss. 21-22)? How does this fit our understanding of the name and the work of the redeemer we learned about during Lent? So how long does Ruth glean from Boaz's fields (vs. 23)? What does this reveal about God and how His ways and instructions are good from generation to generation? What does this reveal about humanity? How does following God's instructions/commands actually make us better? How does this concept of Boaz redeeming his relatives point to Jesus' redemption of you? Where are you being protected and cared for in the midst of misery or trials or even temptations? Spend some time in prayer with Jesus, asking him for forgiveness and thanking Him for redeeming you.

Thursday, April 30th – Ruth 3

Today we finally see romance develop between Ruth and Boaz, instigated by Naomi. What instructions does Naomi give Ruth to get the ball rolling (vss. 1-4)? How does Ruth respond to Naomi's instructions (vs. 5)? How does the plan work out (vss. 7-10)? Keep in mind scholars disagree with what "uncovering his feet" means. Some suggest sexual implications, while others say she just laid at his feet. We may never know what happened that night, but the results were pretty quick. What are the results of this evening's events (vss. 11-13)? How does the evening/morning wind up (vss. 14-15)? What is Naomi's reaction to all that had happened (vss. 16-18)? What does this reveal to you about God's mercy and power to make what needs to happen, happen? What does it reveal about us? How does this point to Jesus? Consider how Jesus shares His abundance with us; redeems us; cares for us. Sing a song of praise or pray a prayer of gratitude.

Friday, May 1st – Ruth 4

We will finish the Book of Ruth today with the union of Boaz and Ruth. We start off with Boaz doing as he said he would the previous night. How do these negotiations work out (vss. 1-10)? How do the people in the town respond (vs.11-12)? Notice whose son this will be (10b)? This follows the commandment of God in Deuteronomy 25:5. This way the land stays with the family to whom it had originally been given. Everyone likes a good ending.

What happens here (vss. 13-17)? Things to consider as we read this happily-ever-after ending. This did not happen overnight. This was years in the making, from when Naomi loses her sons to Ruth bearing Obed. God works on His own timeline, not ours. Verses 18-21 are the genealogy of King David. Perez is the son of Judah and his daughter-in-law Tamar from back in Genesis 38. Consider the people in this genealogy. Tamar had sex with her father-in-law and produced an heir from which David came. Ruth is not an Israelite. What does this reveal about God's ability to redeem? What does this say about us and how God can use us? How does this story of love and redemption point to Jesus? Congratulations, you have finished 9 books of the Old Testament!

Saturday, May 2nd – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Samuel 3:1-10.