

# Ruth Part 4: Prophetic Prayers Go Deeper Guide

## SCRIPTURE

14 Then the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the Lord, who has now provided a redeemer for your family! May this child be famous in Israel. 15 May he restore your youth and care for you in your old age. For he is the son of your daughter-in-law who loves you and has been better to you than seven sons!"

**Ruth 4:14-15**

## READ THIS OVERVIEW

Who doesn't love a wedding celebration?! On my wedding day, all I could think about were all the prayers I had prayed leading up to that day. All of the things that I thought were impossible, I was seeing God manifest right before my very eyes. It was a beautiful day of celebration and God's immense goodness in our lives.

God is always writing a redemptive story and the marriage of Ruth & Boaz bears witness to that. An unlikely widow, in a foreign land, with a widowed mother in law. To most, this would seem like an impossible situation, but to God, it was the perfect setting to display His glory.

While the scripture makes no mention of a white dress and a stringed quartet, there is a beautiful picture of redemption and restoration being told in this chapter through this marriage. Through Ruth's marriage to Boaz, she became the grandmother of King David, the ancestor of Jesus. In her story, we see the lengths that God is willing to go to to ensure that Jesus was fully qualified to be Israel's Messiah and Savior of the world. That only furthers the point that God will let nothing stop His plan and will to bring redemption to the world.

In any good wedding, there are vows taken, by the bride, the groom, and hopefully, the witnesses. Here, we see the witnesses declaring the truth of what God has done for Ruth and Naomi. I wonder what it did for their faith to see God's goodness at work in these women's lives? I can't help but feel like the Lord is asking us to be like the witnesses in the story. When we see God's hand of goodness and faithfulness move in someone else's life, what would it look like for us to speak life and blessings over that person? What would it look like for us to pour on more praise and prayer over their circumstance?

Sadly, too many times we walk away from others' blessings because of petty jealousy. When we can't see beyond ourselves, then we tend to get stuck in comparison and greed all because we want to speak against God's miraculous move in the world. In doing this, instead, we miss out on participating in God's miraculous move in the world. I don't know about you, but I don't want to miss it. Take every chance you can to join in with God's good work in the Earth by constantly looking for His hand so that you can see the evidence of His heart for redemption in the world.

## **ENGAGE A PRACTICE**

Celebration!

When we can practice the discipline of celebration, then we literally shift our perspective of the world. That's not to say that we suddenly ignore the tough things that are happening in life. Those situations are real, so real. Here's the truth: circumstance can be hard AND God is still good. Both of those things can be true at the same time.

Where can you celebrate what God is doing in your life or in the lives of people around you?

## **WRAP UP IN PRAYER**

Lord, we love you so much. God, we are so encouraged to know that You won't let anything get in the way of seeing Your kingdom come and Your will being done on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us Heavenly Eyes to be able to see the things that can be celebrated today. We love you, Jesus. Amen.

