

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Planting Roots Update
3-Year Journey Ends Next Month!
76% of commitments fulfilled
84% with non-commitments

Mark your calendars:

November 19th: *Agape & Planting Roots Culmination & Celebration! Join us as we end our Journey and look ahead to what's next!*

November 26th: *First Sunday Services at 4890 Bethany Lane!*

Get more information and check out our parking and building layout at:
www.ourelement.org/move

*Informational Meeting for
Fostering Respite Care*
Sunday October 29th @ 1p

Learn more about the foster system, and the needs for respite care for foster parents.
Info meeting only, no obligations.
Questions: ordinarygc@ourelement.org

Join our Weekly Email
Stay up to date in your inbox!

Sign up at ourelement.org or email connect@ourelement.org and say, "Join mailing list"

Story Within The Story Week Nine: Redemption – Ruth 4:1-12



Today's Verses:

Ruth 4:6
Judges 21:25
Ruth 1:1

Ruth 3:7, 9
Leviticus 25:25
Ruth 4:1-12

Story Within The Story Week Nine: Redemption – Ruth 4:1-12

When you hear the term “Redeemer,” usually we’re talking about Jesus (and all redemption really is because of Him) but today we see how redemption is something we are all apart of and have the ability to extend to each other. Boaz and Ruth are examples to us of this redemption, Boaz is a Christ-like hero, Ruth embodies the humility and faithfulness of Jesus. Boaz does the right thing for the right reasons. Ruth is more than a pretty face: she is wise, diligent, and kind...just like the one true God she believes in. We’re well into our series where we study the book of Ruth and this week we take a first pass at what redemption is, who is a Redeemer, and why this matters to us and to Ruth.

A redeemer, in that culture, was an extended family member (in this case through Naomi’s deceased husband Elimelech) that would come in and pay off a debt in order to bring a family member back. A redeemer had 2 functions:

- to redeem people
- to redeem property.

The redeemer was the fixer...the one who was blessed by God in order to bless others. *Leviticus 25:25* “***If your brother becomes poor and sells part of his property, then his nearest redeemer shall come and redeem what his brother has sold.*** Boaz is a redeemer, an honorable man, who tries to live the law of God as close as possible in order to honor God and others. Even though a redeemer would only be obligated to look after widows and/or orphans if a man died to which he was related, Ruth is still treated as family having been brought in because of her faith in God. She is loved by Naomi as a daughter, she treats Naomi as a mother, and Naomi is expecting Ruth to be redeemed because Naomi sees her as family.

Being redeemers for others means we stop asking what people can give back to us, and simply learn to give like our great God has given to us.

Discussion – Read Leviticus 25:25

Recap as a group what the function of a redeemer is from Leviticus 25.

Have you ever been in a position where someone in your family “redeemed” you?

Have you ever been the one to “redeem” someone?

If so, what was your motivation? What was the outcome?

Explanation

Being a redeemer for others means to stop asking what people can give back to us, and simply learn to give like our great God has given to us.

How can you see others the way God does?

Can people like us redeem the world around us? How?

Application - Read Ruth 4:9-12

As a witness to God’s redemption through Boaz to Ruth, what implication does this have for us in 2017?

What does being a witness to Redemption mean in our day to day lives?

Mission

Think about your family, your neighbors, friends, co-workers, people you interact with on social media...

How can you individually, and as a Gospel Community, reflect and extend redemption?

What simple act or change in perspective can you make right now to see others the way God does?

How can you say “we are worthy because God says we are and therefore I will accept and love you?”

Homework: Read Ruth 4:13-17

Imagine you had to tell how Jesus redeemed your life in 140 characters or less.

What would you say?

