

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MOVING Weekend 1

Help us move our storage and offices!

Saturday, October 14th

Join us for Men's breakfast at 8am, then move our offices at 9:30am. Please bring gloves and tools to disconnect desks

-and/or-

Sunday, October 15th. Please stay after service and take a load over to our new property and unload into storage container. Please bring gloves, trucks, tie downs and dump trailers.

Questions: connect@ourelement.org

Women's Bible Study

Begins THIS Wednesday, September 27 at 9:30-11:30am

Fall Study: Gospel Fluency by Jeff Vanderstelt (Book)

Childcare is provided. Sign up at Welcome Center or by emailing: women@ourelement.org

eMoms String Art Event

Element Moms would like to invite all women to join their String Art craft event on October 21 at 2:00. Please RSVP by October 15.

emoms@ourelement.org

eMoms Holiday Bazaar

Mark your calendar for Element Mom's fundraiser: Holiday Bazaar on November 4th

emoms@ourelement.org

Stand Down Military Packs

Pick up and fill a pack now till 10/8 to donate towards our County's Veterans Stand Down annual event

connect@ourelement.org

Story Within The Story Week Five: Work, Rest, and Noticing – Ruth 2:1-7



Today's Verses:

Ruth 2:6
Proverbs 24:10
Proverbs 17:3

Ruth 2:1-7
John 15:15
Ruth 1:15-17

Ruth 1:8
Ephesians 5:1-2

Story Within The Story Week Five: Work, Rest, and Noticing – Ruth 2:1-7

Ruth is about God's goodness in the ordinary, the mundane, the hard, and the "normal." Nothing in the book of Ruth is miraculous; no dreams, no visions, no miracles. But the same all powerful God who rescued the entire nation of Israel by parting the Red Sea for Moses is the same gracious God who gives a single widow a home, a family, and a community.

God's bigger story of redemption is unfolding for Ruth and for us. We see God's providential hand both in Ruth's challenges and in our own hard things, our own ordinary, mundane circumstances. We have learned so far in the book of Ruth that God is good. God is kind, and God is actively listening to His people.

This week we see how "character" gets notice by three main people in the story:

Naomi – Naomi's understanding of who God is makes a difference in Ruth's coming to trust the God of the Scriptures. Naomi will selflessly love Ruth even when Ruth doesn't believe the same way that Naomi does. That love will convince Ruth of the reality of Naomi's faith and Ruth will begin to love Naomi's God.

Boaz – We are finally introduced to Boaz this week and he leaves an impression on all who meet him! War hero, wealthy farmer, all around good guy, but most importantly, he loves Jesus.

Ruth – A servant who works well even knowing the stigma she is under because of her own personal ancestry.

Discussion

Ruth has officially converted from worshiping the Moabite gods to firmly believing in the one true God.

How does this conversion happen?

Think about your character – would someone be able to know who God is and what he is about by observing your life and your character?

Explanation

"It's when Naomi loves Ruth, even though she doesn't believe, that she believes. It's when Naomi sacrificially loves somebody who doesn't believe in her God at all that her God begins to look credible." – Tim Keller

What is your favorite character quality of God?

How do you reflect that character in your own life?

Application - Read Ruth 2:1-7

Boaz reflects God's providence, kindness, and goodness to the community. Ruth is beautiful, wise, and faithful. They each have excellent character.

List some of your character qualities (ask those around you what they see in you).

What is God doing through your story to show others who He is and what He is doing in your mundane life?

Mission

Think about your Gospel Community – where is God at work behind the scenes to bring joy, to work for good, to tell the bigger story of Redemption?

Who do you need to love more sacrificially? What does that look like for people in your life?

How, like Boaz, do you need to do what is right in God's eyes by making sure the poor, the widows, the orphans and the foreigners have something to glean?

Homework: Read Ruth 2:8-15

Have you ever worked hard for something and failed to get what you wanted?

Did you ever receive something you did not deserve?

