

## 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 dismantle 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

### *Middle School Nerf War*

**October 6, 6:30-8p**

efamily@ourelement.org

### *Parent/Leader Breakfast of Middle & High Schoolers*

**October 21st, 10-11a**

Parents are invited to our Parent/Leader breakfast to meet your students' leaders and partner with them to help your kids faith grow. Full Breakfast will be served! efamily@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

### *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 Six: The Wages God Pays? – Ruth 2:8-13



### *Today's Verses:*

Ruth 2:12  
Ruth 2:5  
Ruth 2:8-13  
James 1:22  
James 2:14

James 2:26  
Ephesians 5:13  
1 Corinthians 3:13  
Romans 6:23  
Romans 12:19

Romans 5:9  
Romans 12:1  
James 2:18  
Romans 12:1  
1 John 2:4

## Story Within The Story Week Six: The Wages God Pays? – Ruth 2:8-13

Ruth is a book that gives us stories within stories! Ruth might be a short book in the Old Testament, but it is a big part of God's sweeping redemption story being told throughout all of the Bible. Sinclair Ferguson wrote that "all great narrative...is composed of a problem, an unraveling of it, and a solution to it." This is true of not only the book of Ruth, but of our lives as well. We have a central problem called sin, we are unraveling, and Jesus comes to rescue and save us.

This week we're still in the problem phase of Ruth's story as we zero in on the major players:

- **God:** He is always first because He is the true author of our story and the bringer of hope and redemption through His sovereign plan.
- **Naomi:** She is a faithful old woman, but for now in the text she's really good at being the "bitter, party of one!"
- **Ruth:** She is the beautiful, hardworking, new believer in the One True God; while this is a wonderful thing, she also comes with the baggage of being a woman from a culture where pretty girls have a "not so good" reputation.
- **Boaz:** He is the rich hero, a man with a great love to bless others. Boaz has a good reputation and enough swagger to go against what his culture says to do when the poor (albeit gorgeous in Ruth's case) and needy come calling.

God is at work in these lives and in ours. Little by little He is growing Ruth's faith, He is reminding Naomi of why she has faith, and He is showing off His own kindness through Boaz's faith. All these people are living out the Gospel because of their faith in a good, kind, sovereign God.

### Discussion

Romans 5:9 says, "Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God."

What are we "saved" from?

How should this view of God's salvation teach us to live differently because we are truly free?

### Explanation

Tim Keller says, "Jesus dying on the cross so we can be forgiven shows at the same moment He hates evil and yet He will overcome it in us."

What does justice mean to you?

What comes to mind when you hear the word "love"?

How can love and justice be combined?

### Application - Read Ruth 2:8-13

Boaz is living a life where God's grace, mercy, and kindness are on full display.

How do these qualities show up in your life?

What does it mean to live a life of faith when all we want to see is justice?

### Mission

If God has promised that the wages of sin is death, yet comes and pays that wage Himself, how could that free you to love others?

If the wage that God has given you is grace and love by taking care of the justice for sin, how do you practically spend the wages of grace in others' lives?

How do you teach the people around you that they can trust God in their daily lives?

### Homework: Read Ruth 2:14-23

Do you have a good friend, maybe even a "best" friend?

What do you value most in your friendships?

