

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

TODAY AT @ 1p

Learn more about the foster system, and the need of respite care for foster parents. Info meeting only, no obligations.

eMoms Holiday Bazaar

This Saturday, 9a-3p

Come shop for the Holidays

emoms@ourelement.org

Story Within The Story Week Ten: Planting Roots Ending – Ruth 1,2,3



Today's Verses:

1 Corinthians 4:7

John 5:17

1 Corinthians 6:20

Romans 1:6

Ruth 2:4

Ecclesiastes 5:19

Matthew 6:19-21

Story Within The Story Week Ten: Planting Roots Ending – Ruth 1,2,3

If you are newer to Element, we have been in journey called “Planting Roots” over the last three years. This journey focused on generosity, God’s leading, and finding Element a permanent home. In amazing providential care, God has done all of these things in renewed ways over the last 3 years; many times these “ways” were unexpected, but still a blessing.

In the most technical sense, today is the end of that three year journey we started. We will actually have our official Planting Roots closure on November 19th with our Agape service at our new property, but if you were following strict timelines, today is three years. We can see how all of this relates in the book of Ruth: journeys, hard work, blessing, growth, and God’s providence which brings about great joy in His people.

In the Scriptures we see that God blesses us to be a blessing in others’ lives, this can happen no matter how much, or how little, we think we have. Boaz is rich, but he is righteous and gives to those around him in how he cares and distributes his wealth. Ruth is poor, but she is righteous and gives and cares for those around her by how she works and distributes what she gleaned. They both have a view that sees God’s care for them in a way that causes them to look beyond their own desires and needs and to the welfare of others.

The beauty of the book of Ruth, when looking at Ruth and Boaz, is that we all have the same opportunity, whether we are poor like Ruth or rich like Boaz, to help those around us in practical ways because Jesus has first saved and loved us.

Discussion

The scriptures teach that God gives us wealth and possessions for two reasons: 1) To enjoy them, and 2) to give them away to bless others.

**How do you enjoy the stuff (the income) God has given you?
How do you give it away to benefit others?**

Explanation – Read Matthew 6:19-21

Where you keep your heart is where your entire life will lay.

Where would you say you keep your heart?

How often do you think your heart is deceived into thinking it is kept somewhere it is not?

Do you ever convince yourself you don’t have “enough” or need “more” when God has truly provided for you in phenomenal ways already?

What does that provision look like? How do you convince yourself?

Application - Read 1 Corinthians 4:7

How often do you forget where your stuff comes from?

Would remembering that God is the one who provides help or hurt your generosity?

When was that last time you were generous to the point it hurt?

Mission

Boaz has an informal ministry, he looks after and cares for people simply because God has looked after him. Why would God give us something? The answer is, “to share.” God wants to partner with us to grow us into the people He intends for us to be. A lot of the things that dominate Ruth are basic needs: food, water, shelter, love, and relationship...when we provide like Boaz people today are astounded. When people ask, “why are you helping me? Why are you loving me?” Our answer is meant to always come back to THE GOSPEL.

What is THE GOSPEL?

How does a right understanding of THE GOSPEL teach us generosity as a response to God’s love?

How can our generosity be a witness of Jesus in others’ lives?

Homework: Read Ruth 4:13-17

How would you define the word “redeemer?”

