

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### *We're Moving!*

#### **Mark your calendars:**

**NEXT SUNDAY! November 19th:**

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

*Soup & Chili Potluck: Bring a crock pot of your favorite soup or  
chili to share! Also bring a lawn chair and dress warm.*

*Element will provide drinks, bread and dessert.*

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

*Regular service times: 8:15, 9:30 & 11am!*

**Get more information and check out our parking  
and building layout at:**  
[www.ourelement.org/move](http://www.ourelement.org/move)

### *High School Cook-off*

**November 16th**

**Thanksgiving Celebration with our 2nd Annual  
Cook-off. Details to come.**

[efamily@ourelement.org](mailto:efamily@ourelement.org)

### *Join our Weekly Email*

**Stay up to date in your inbox!**

Sign up at [ourelement.org](http://ourelement.org) or email  
[connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org) and say, "Join mailing list"

## Story Within The Story Week Twelve: It's All About Jesus – Ruth 4:18-22



### *Today's Verses:*

Ruth 4:18-22  
Romans 8:28  
Ruth 2:10  
Ruth 2:13

Ruth 3:9  
Ruth 4:13  
Ruth 1:20-21  
Matthew 6:25

Ephesians 2:4-9  
John 3:16  
Ruth 4:16-17

# Story Within The Story Week Twelve: It's All About Jesus – Ruth 4:18-22

Today we finish the narrative from the book of Ruth. Ruth is a book that teaches us that in God's redeeming work in our lives NOTHING IS WASTED. For God; every situation, every circumstance, and every poor decision we have made can all be redeemed in light of the good news of Jesus. We may not understand how He will redeem it while we are in the middle of our heartache and pain, but when we surrender all we are to Him, Jesus does a miracle. God uses it all to bring about His purpose and His glory.

God, usually, will take our worst decisions and turn those into the mechanism of our salvation. Jesus takes our sin and our shame and redefines us into something new: His adopted child, welcomed into the family of God. This is why Ruth goes through an ascent in the book as shown in the Hebrew text. On top of being reminded that Ruth is a Moabite, you also see other words used to describe her.

- *Ruth 2:10* The word foreigner means stranger or even harlot, in Hebrew it is a very demeaning term.
- *Ruth 2:13* This word servant here is an elevated form of what Ruth uses in 2:10.
- *Ruth 3:9* The word servant used here means a young woman of marriageable age; it is a title of potential, hope and possibility.
- *Ruth 4:13* Wife is one of the highest and esteemed titles for someone in the Bible; it is what Eve is first called in Genesis.

Ruth, by God's grace, has been redeemed and is someone with worth and value.

It is important throughout Ruth's story to notice a word that frequently comes up, the word *Hesed*, God's loving kindness. The idea is that *Hesed* is the key ingredient in why God redeems us. *Hesed* is key to faithfulness and devotion. It is because of God's *Hesed* that He is willing to redeem even the worst thing in our lives. Why did Jesus come? Because God so loved the world, His love caused Him to act in loving kindness toward us.

## Discussion

**What are some names you were called when growing up that made you feel worthless?**

**What are some things you have called others (even recently)?**

**What is the most powerful (positive) thing anyone has ever said to you?**

## Explanation – Read Ruth 1:20-21

Everything in our lives can and will be used by God to bring about redemption to us and glory to His name. Even when we don't see the possibility we must still trust in the creative hands of the God who created us!

**What things in your life give you value? Why?**

**What if those things were stripped away from you, how would you respond?**

**What would cause you to speak the same words as Naomi at the end of Ruth 1?**

## Application – Read Matthew 6:25-26

**What do you think Jesus means when He says you are of more value than birds of the air?**

**Read Ephesians 2:4-9**

**Seeing how salvation is a gift from God, how should we then respond when we understand what He has done to rescue us?**

## Mission

**How can you relate to others the value that God has placed upon them, moving the focus from them, to God?**

## Homework: Read Ruth 4:16-17

**What is something you have walked away with from the book of Ruth?**

