

## 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!

*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 Eleven: The Redeemer – Ruth 4:13-17



### *Today's Verses:*

Ruth 4:14  
Ruth 4:13-17

Ruth 2:8-9  
Ruth 3:9

## Story Within The Story Week Eleven: The Redeemer – Ruth 4:13-17

Over the past 10 weeks, we have looked closely at redemption from a few perspectives. What it looks like to be redeemed, who provides redemption, and why it matters in our hearts, our families, and our communities. We have seen the non-miraculous story of a brave, humble, and faithful immigrant widow bring the one true God into the mundane details of life and what happens next is all part of the greatest love story ever told. Remember how this small Old Testament book is a story within The Story? Let's spend a little more time looking at Ruth together and observe how her "happily ever after" secured our eternal happy ending to The Story.

Tim Keller says that in the story of Ruth we meet three Redeemers:

**The formal redeemer** – This is Boaz who takes on the debt of Naomi's family, but also marries Ruth... which means that all of his wealth, which wasn't hers originally, and for which she had never earned or worked for, becomes hers legally. This reminds us that our sins are not just paid for, but a whole new life is given to us.

**The hidden redeemer (or surprise)** – This is Ruth who impoverishes herself so Naomi can eventually become rich. She becomes an alien and a stranger in a foreign land and as a result, Naomi is redeemed. This reminds us that Jesus comes in human flesh, He leaves EVERYTHING to rescue and save us.

**The real redeemer** – This is Jesus who is the Child of the promise to be born in Bethlehem. Jesus, like Ruth, left His Father's home, but like Boaz, He not only paid our debt, but He reaches out and unites with us so all of His wealth becomes ours. He becomes the author and perfecter of our faith, through our substitute, and becoming our mediator. We are invited into His family. We are invited to be redeemed; to have our sin, our debt, paid for, and we are invited to truly become free.

### Discussion

**When we first started this study of Ruth, what did you think about the idea of redemption?**

All of the Old Testament points us to Jesus.

**If Jesus is our kinsman-redeemer, who in Ruth's story, points us to Jesus?**

**Why is the name of this book Ruth? Why isn't it named Boaz?**

### Explanation

Relationship with God is important to Ruth just as it is central to our lives and stories.

**How does Ruth's relationship with Naomi help her to grow?**

**What relationships help *you* to grow? What about those friendships is different from your other relationships?**

### Application - Read Ruth 4:13-17

Tim Keller says that Ruth shows us, "*the radical imperative of discipleship.*" Ruth says she will obey God no matter what.

**Can Ruth obey God alone? Can Ruth follow God's ways in her own strength? Can you?**

**Where in your life is God showing you to follow Him more deeply?**

**What stands in the way of you doing that?**

### Mission

Telling stories is part of being human because God is the author of the very best Story. We all are a part of that.

**Who is the hero, the kinsman redeemer, of your story?**

**What is a way you can share your story with others in your community?**

### Homework: Read Ruth 4:18-22

**Explain what you think God's "kindness" is.**

