



The Threshing Floor
“Behold, the Redeemer” Series
Ruth 3:6-18, page 223
September 20, 2020
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God exhorts us to follow the example of Christ and be faithful to God’s law in our family.

The Text: Ruth 3:6-18

⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. ⁷ And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. ⁸ At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! ⁹ He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.” ¹⁰ And he said, “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹² And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³ Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.” ¹⁴ So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, “Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.” ¹⁵ And he said, “Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out.” So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. ¹⁶ And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, “How did you fare, my daughter?” Then she told her all that the man had done for her, ¹⁷ saying, “These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, ‘You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.’” ¹⁸ She replied, “Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.”

- 1) This text shows how the relationship between a man and a woman is more than romance (vv. 6-11).
- 2) Boaz’ actions show us how to situate our personal desires under the gracious laws of God (vv. 12-18).
- 3) Boaz’ redemption of Ruth serves as a preview of the redemption we receive through Jesus Christ.

Response

In what ways can you reflect the gracious ministry of Christ in your marriage and extended family?

Sunday Text Questions for Ruth 3:6-18 (“Ruth” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: How much does “romance” dominate the way our culture thinks about marriage and relationships?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Vv. 6-7 describe Ruth’s approach toward Boaz on the threshing floor. How would you describe the emotions and tensions in the scene?
- 4) In what ways is Ruth’s response to Boaz in v. 9 both accurate and bold?
- 5) What aspects of Boaz’ response to Ruth’s request are worth commending (vv. 10-13)?
- 6) What does Boaz’ statement in v. 12 mean, and how does it reflect a proper concern for the law of God?
- 7) Why did Boaz want Ruth not to be seen by others when leaving the threshing floor at dawn (v. 14)?
- 8) Why did Boaz think it so important (see v. 17) that Ruth not go back to Naomi empty-handed?
- 9) How is our relationship to our spouse, kids, or parents more than “feelings,” and in what ways does this text teach us to treat and interact with them faithfully?
- 10) Boaz showed great concern for the law of God, even if it was not always what his feelings wanted him to do. In what areas are Christians today tempted to dismiss or twist God’s commands to fit their feelings or personal desires, and how can we fight this temptation?

Further study this week: Passages on the faithfulness in relationships: Malachi 2:10-16 (Mon); Song of Solomon 8:6-7 (Tues); 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 (Wed); 1 Peter 4:8 (Thurs); James 1:19-20 (Fri).