

Adoption God's redemptive response to brokenness

- Ruth 1:20-22 20 But she said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. 21 I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has afflicted me?” 22 So Naomi returned, and with her Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, who returned from the land of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.
 - It seems like God in His infinite wisdom allows heartache and sorrow to set the stage for unspeakable joy.
 - In those times when it seems God is the farthest from you, He may actually be setting the stage to display His greatest faithfulness to you.
- Ruth 2:1 Now Naomi had a relative of her husband, a man of great wealth, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.
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- Ruth 2:2 And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, “Please let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain following one in whose eyes I may find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.”
 - In faith, Ruth, a Moabite, sets out to find favor.
- Ruth 2:3 So she left and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers; and **she happened to come to the portion of the field belonging to Boaz**, who was of the family of Elimelech.
 - Nothing in our lives happen by accident. God is a great orchestrater.
- Ruth 2:4 Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem ...
 - Don't miss out on the drama. -- IT'S PLANNED!!!
 - By luck? - Nothing happens by luck!
 - God is behind the details!!!
- Ruth 2:4 Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem and said to the reapers, “May the Lord be with you.” And they said to him, “May the Lord bless you.”
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- Ruth 2:5 Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, “Whose young woman is this?”
 - Not WHO is she, but WHOSE is she.
- Ruth 2:6&7 6 And the servant in charge of the reapers replied, “She is the young Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from the land of Moab. 7 And she said, ‘Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.’ So she came and has remained from the morning until now; she has been sitting in the house for a little while.”
 - The redeemer seeks and pursues the outcast, the unwanted.
- Ruth 2:8&9 8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Listen carefully, my daughter. Do not go to glean in another field; furthermore, do not go on from this one, but join my young women here. 9 Keep your eyes on the field which they reap, and go after them. Indeed, I have ordered the servants not to touch you. When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw.”
 - The redeemer gives safety, shelter, and provisions
- Ruth 2:10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your sight that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?”
 - The redeemed is giving due honor to the one who has sought after and saved. - The Redeemer

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- Ruth 2:11-13 11 Boaz replied to her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband has been fully reported to me, and how you left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and came to a people that you did not previously know. **12 May the Lord reward your work, and may your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.**” 13 Then she said, “I have found favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and indeed have spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not like one of your female servants.”
 - The redeemed does nothing to be redeemed.
- Ruth 2:14 And at mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come here, that you may eat of the bread and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.” So she sat beside the reapers; and he served her roasted grain, and she ate and was satisfied and had some left.
 - The redeemer serves the redeemed!
 - God intends for His people to be a reflection of His love for those who are in need.
 - God has ordained His people to reflect His love to the needy. (e.g. Orphans)
 - We are called be a reflection of the character of God
 - Imagine what can happen if we open our hands and mobilize the wealth and resources that God has entrusted to us!
- Ruth 2:15-17 15 When she got up to glean, Boaz commanded his servants, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not insult her. 16 Also you are to purposely slip out for her *some grain* from the bundles and leave *it* so that she may glean, and do not rebuke her.” 17 So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.
 - God changes circumstances quickly!
 - Those starving one day are filled the next - with left overs.
 - Those who “don’t belong to anyone”, with one decree, have parents, with the next decree - with grandparents and siblings.
- Ruth 2:18&19 18 And she picked *it* up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also took *some* out and gave Naomi what she had left after she was satisfied. 19 Her mother-in-law then said to her, “Where did you glean today and where did you work? May he who took notice of you be blessed.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, “The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz.”
- Ruth 2:20 Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “May he be blessed of the Lord who has not withdrawn His kindness from the living and from the dead.” Again Naomi said to her, “The man is our relative; he is one of our redeemers.”
 - To redeem you must have..
 - The authority
 - The ability
 - The resolve

To Redeem	To Adopt
Have Authority	Home study
The Ability	Finances
The Resolve	Can't quit

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- It's a story of God's sovereign and gracious plan of sustaining a lineage that leads to a King.
 - We don't deserve it, we didn't earn it, and we were not born into it.
 - The redeemer has sought us and called us by name and invited us to His table to be served by Him.
 - He pursued us, provided for us, and saved us!
 - He adopted us!

- Pray
- Virtually adopt a child..
- Find a family that is adopting and "adopt" them.
- Support orphan ministries.
- Volunteer with an orphan ministry
- Go on a mission trip to an orphanage.
- Connect with people in your county (Children's Advocates, etc.)

Start with 1!