

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Paid in Full” Ruth 4 June 30, 2018

Getting Started

As we wait, He works! Jesus as our kinsman redeemer fulfills the role as your Deliverer not only today, but forever more by pleading your case, defending your cause, and calling you His own.

What did God impress upon you the most from this message?

Going Deeper

- I. **Pursuit** towards Redemption: *“gone up to the gate”* (Vs. 1)
 - a. **Perfect Timing:** *“Behold”* Vs. 1
 - b. **Perfect Ten:** *“took **ten** men of the elders of the city”* (Vs. 2)
 - c. **Perfect Touch:** *“then he said to the redeemer”* (Vs. 3-4)

In 3:13, Boaz promises Ruth that he will redeem her. He is committed to doing it, but he is also very clever in how he goes about doing it. What are some things Boaz did that were wise and clever? What can we learn from him about how we should approach difficult situations?

- II. **Price** for Redemption: *“Then Boaz said”* (Vs. 5)
 - a. **Consider the Cost:** *“you also **acquire** Ruth, the Moabite, the widow of the dead”* (Vs. 5)
 - b. **Count the Cost:** *“to perpetuate the name of the dead, in **his** inheritance.* (Vs. 5)
 - c. **Conceded due to the Cost:** *“I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance”* (Vs. 6)

When the first redeemer hears that he can increase his holdings by buying the land from Naomi, he is initially excited, imagining how much wealthier he will become. But then Boaz ruins his day, by explaining that he won't get to have the land for himself, but will have to buy it and give it to Naomi and Ruth, so they can be provided for.

The first redeemer realizes that by buying the land, he will be diluting his money and diminishing his own ability to provide for his family. With this new information, he counts the cost and doesn't want to do it, thus freeing up Boaz to be the Kinsman-Redeemer.

Read Hebrews 12:2. What cost did Jesus pay for you? What attitude did He have while doing it?

Read Hebrews 12:1. How should we respond to what Jesus has done for us?

III. **Proof** in Redemption: *"custom...concerning...redeeming and exchanging"* (Vs. 7)

- a. **Statement of Surrender:** *"Buy it for yourself"* (Vs. 8)
- b. **Symbolism of the Sandal:** *"he drew off his sandal"* (Vs. 8)
 - i. **Receipt:** *"confirm a transaction"* (Vs. 7)
 - ii. **Record:** *"manner of attesting in Israel"* (Vs. 7)

Read Colossians 2:13-14. What did Jesus do to provide proof of our redemption?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. What other proof do these verses give?

What should redeemed, forgiven, and free people live like?

IV. **Prize** with Redemption: *"Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people"* (Vs. 9)

- a. **Property Secured:** *"I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech...Chilion...Mahlon"* (Vs. 9)
- b. **Promise Delivered:** *"to be my wife"* (Vs. 10)
- c. **Prayer Offered:** *"May..."* (3x) (Vs. 11-12)

As you read the prayer offered in verses 11-12, what three blessings do the witnesses pray over Boaz? (his wife, his character/reputation, and his offspring). How can you begin to incorporate this kind of prayerful blessing into your own family and life?

V. **Praise** in Redemption: *“blessed be the Lord”* (Vs. 14)

a. **Fruitfulness:** *“The Lord gave her conception”* (Vs. 13)

b. **Faithfulness:** *“who has not left you without a redeemer”*
(Vs. 14)

Verses 15-17 show us that not only does Naomi get a grandchild but he is promised to be a restorer of her old age and is named Obed, which means ‘servant.’ From Obed will come King David, and eventually Jesus!

This tiny book of Ruth, just 4 chapters long, gives us a small glimpse of history, but also shows us how God is intimately involved in accomplishing His eternal purposes for humanity. Who could have imagined that from a story of such tragedy, a woman losing her husband and both sons, would come a grandchild who would be in the lineage of King David and Jesus? You may feel like your life is small or insignificant on a planet with over 6 billion people, but God has His eye on your story too. What do you think God is doing in your life right now? How might that impact future generations?

Take Away: Jesus is the ultimate kinsman-redeemer! For he has gone to the furthest extreme to validate and substantiate His love for you! He did so by meeting the legal demands of the law, claiming you as His own, and securing your future by His finished work on the cross. Now, He currently resides as your eternal defense attorney pleading your case of innocence. What a Savior!

Prayer Requests