

RUTH 4

FROM EMPTINESS TO ABUNDANCE

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

How have you experienced the blessing of God when life has felt empty?



Read Ruth 4

- **Look at the first six verses.** We have looked at Boaz' character. What aspects do you think are shown in what he says and does here?
- What is ironic about what the first kinsman-redeemer says in **verse 6**, given how the book ends?
- Thinking about the inheritance that Boaz was giving to Ruth, how was his behaviour like that of Jesus with us? Look at **Ephesians 1 v 18** and talk about what it means.

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- Look at the blessing that was given at the town gate by the elders (**v 11,12**). Later readers of Ruth would have understood the importance of the names that are mentioned as key people in Israel's history (although also stories tinged with tragedy).

Meanwhile, we read this passage in conjunction with what we know about Ruth's ancestor David. (**Ruth 4 v 22 & Matthew 1 v 1**).

- Thinking about the sweep of history represented here, as well as where we stand today as God's unfolding story continues, what strikes you about the God we worship?
- **Look at verses 14-15**, and look back at **chapter 1 v 21**. What do you think is in Naomi's heart as she looks down at the baby in her arms?



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GOING DEEPER

The book of Ruth has been described as ‘the story of a God who provides for his people, according to his promises’. Look back through the book of Ruth and talk about how you see God working all things out for his good (**Romans 8 v 28**).

Are there ever times when it feels as though God’s good isn’t the same as our good? How can we continue to trust God in those situations?

Ruth is also a picture of God’s salvation. Looking back through the book from where we first meet Ruth to where she is at the end, how could her story symbolise our salvation journey?

WE KNOW THAT GOD CAUSES EVERYTHING TO

WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD

OF THOSE WHO LOVE GOD AND ARE CALLED

ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE FOR THEM.

ROMANS 8:28

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LISTEN | PRAY

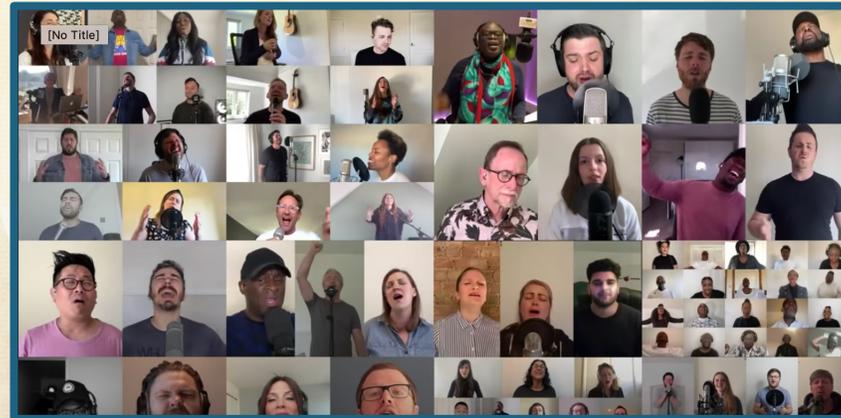
LISTEN

This song was recorded during the pandemic in 2020.

It uses words from **Numbers 6 : 24-26.**

Listen to it as a fitting prayer to finish the book of Ruth.

The Blessing



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtl3mNj5U>

PRAY

Thank God for what we have learned from our studies in Ruth.

Thank him for his faithfulness and patience with us.

Thank him for gently drawing us back to himself when we reach out to him.

Thank him for our salvation which means we have hope today and for ever.