

MAY 8TH 2005: Mothers Day, Dedication of Kate Fawcett, Baptism of Michael Dawson
Overview of Ruth: Ruth 4:13-17

Book of Ruth...beautiful story

Tells of a Jewish couple...who take their 2.....obviously not well.....to another..because
That land is Moab.....old enemy.....and altho ...there for a long time.....long enough 4
It doesn't seem.....ever really belonged

So it was when.....died.....the Jewish Mum→Naomi.....Time to go home.....roots
& I kinda get feeling.....didn't expect the 2 Moabite...to really go...even tho both
She knew how hard it was to move to....& unlike her...These 2...no real reason

But what....didn't count on-→loving....caring nature of RUTH
Theres an amazing statement....Ruth makes to.....1:16-18.....

Stop.....ask yourself why would Ruth do that?

From what we find...chpt 1...had a mothers home.....another religion to slot....

I sense that it was because...saw in Naomi.....a need that she knew she could fill
A loneliness....wanted to alleviate.....A sorrow...prepared to share
And perhaps also.....seen Naomi's faith.....wanted that for herself

It may well be Mothers Day today.....assure you.....Mothers around who are as lonely
as unhappy.....as Naomi

There are women.....who never became Mothers.....
Who find today a strain.....

And children.....never knew the love of.....
Or are alienated.....And today they are churned up inside

There are men and women who today feel they have no one.....
Some mourn....some are bitter.....ALL ARE LONELY

IF you profess to belong to Jesus.....is Jesus calling you to.....in a lesser way
be a Ruth to someone

Is God even now laying a name upon your heart

It may be your own parent...child...relative.....that you have been estranged from
And the Lord is sayingthey need you

Or it may be someone who you hardly know.....They may be sick or well
Old or young.....Nice or grumpy
Christ has seen their need....and through you...He wants to love them

You will need God's strength...wisdom.....It won't be easy:::::Be a blessing

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SO Ruth and Naomi ended up back.....

And Naomi becomes a real mother to Ruth.....and Ruth receives blessing upon

Boaz enters the picture.....and becomes the Kinsman Redeemer....the saviour for this
small family.....He marries Ruth and together they have a son....Obed

And there in Ruth 4:13-17.....we find a gathering of the people of God
Around Naomi.....baby.....and I reckon Boas and Ruth as well

And I sense.....reading between the lines.....

That this was the time.....publicly praised God.....
and committed themselves...as a family group---→Grandma.....parents.....people
to raise this child.....that he might be all.....that God wanted

And surely we have done something similar.....As Keith & Leanne brought Kate
With Grandparents.....family....and close friends
And we too as God's people.....standing with them

Praising God together.....for this precious gift of a young life
Encouraging.....as they commit themselves to be the parents...God needs them to be
In order that little Kate will one day discover Jesus.....

In our society.....minimum level of parenting given by some

Take care of the physical.....Take care of the intellectual-----Not enough

Another level.....so much better.....Sacrificially care for the physical....mental
And also the emotional needs.....By purely earthly....may seem enough but...

There is one component that is too often neglected.....the spiritual part

To bring a child up...in the wisdom and instruction

Is to install in them Godly values.....enhance their lives and relationships
And to give them the opportunity to find salvation

It's a task that demands teaching through example.....behaviour
Trust

Worship

(story of Jonathan Burcham)



Then...there's one last thing.book of Ruth adds to our service today
...relates...baptism

Have you ever wondered why book RUTH.....is in the Bible ?????

Because of the book of Judges

Judges is mainly account.....what happens.....people forget God....
Every one did...

You couldn't say they forget the spiritual.....Channeled their energies wrong direction

It's a sad, depressing book,,that leaves you with little hope.....future

The you read the book of Ruth

In a period where mostdidn't care about God...**Story** of people stood tall for Jehovah

Naomi made a mistake.....courageous enough to repent.....return to her faith
Ruth.....made a choice....to link her life with God's people.....easier to go majority
Boaz.....lives his life by God's standards.....in business...in love...character

The book of Ruth....is God's declaration...that although the majority...There are those

Mike's baptism is somewhat similar

He is making a stand for Jesus

In doing so he stands apart from many.....

He is saying God is my God

He is proclaiming that his faith is real.....and he wants to count for Jesus

If we want to make an impact in this world for Jesus...have to do the same

To stand tall for Jesus

Not to hide our faith.....but to take it into the streets and corridors of life