

WILD & WONDERFUL

DISCOVERING A BIGGER STORY THAN I EVER KNEW

October 24/25, 2020

Ruth 4:1 – 22

Pastor Daniel Hahn

MESSAGE NOTES

Boaz the Redeemer — Symbolic of Our Savior Redeemer

1. Paying the price

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

— Mark 10:45

Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might break the power of him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. — Hebrews 2:14 – 15

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. — 1 Peter 1:18 – 19

He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. — Hebrews 9:12

2. Making the sacrifice

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. — Ephesians 2:4 – 7

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! ... — 1 John 3:1

3. Fulfilling the promise

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are Mine. — Isaiah 43:1

4. Leaving a legacy

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. — Ephesians 2:10

There is always the choice between resentment and gratitude because God has appeared in my darkness, urged me to come home, and declared in a voice filled with affection: "You are with me always, and all I have is yours." Indeed, I can choose to dwell in the darkness in which I stand, point to those who are seemingly better off than I, lament about the many misfortunes that have plagued me in the past, and thereby wrap myself up in my resentment. But I don't have to do this. There is the option to look into the eyes of the one who came out to search for me and see therein that all I am and all I have is pure gift calling for gratitude.

— Henri Nouwen, *Return of The Prodigal Son*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Can you share a time that God provided you with a new opportunity of some sort?
- How would you describe the opportunity God gave to Boaz?
- What are some of the ways Boaz has honored God by honoring Ruth?
- What character quality of Boaz stands out to you?
- Why do you think God commanded that the one who buys the land also must care for the widows?
- How would you describe the character of Ruth's nearer relative, the man who had first rights to buying the land and caring for the family?
- In what ways is Boaz a picture of Christ our redeemer? In what ways are we like Ruth—in need of God's redemption?
- In this story, a promise was given and a price was paid. How is that true for us as God's people?
- How have you seen God work in Naomi's life from chapter 1 through chapter 4? How has she changed?
- What does that reveal about God's work in our lives as well?
- Why throw in the genealogy at the end of the story?
- How has the story of Ruth encouraged you in your own journey with God?