



Date: September 15, 2019

Scripture: **Ruth¹ 1:1-5**

1. From whence does your family come?
2. What are they like (Christian, Non-Christian)?
3. How have your parents' decisions influenced you?
4. What is your full name?
5. What does your first name mean?
6. Why did your parents choose that name?
7. Do you live up to that name?

8. Please see if you can figure out the meaning (via a study Bible, online source or commentary) of all of the names mentioned in Ruth 1:1-5
<https://netbible.org/bible/Ruth+1> (this source is excellent)
 - a. Bethlehem
 - b. Elimelech (hint El-i-Melech)
 - c. Naomi
 - d. Ruth
 - e. Mahlon
 - f. Chilion

9. What are some early hints that God is at work in this story?

10. What are some hints that God is at work in your story?

11. How is this story connected to other Biblical Stories both before and after it? (See the Genealogy in Ruth chapter 4)

12. Extra Credit: What's the big deal about Ruth being from Moab?ⁱⁱ
 - a. A trip to Moab from Bethlehem(at least 60–75 miles) would have taken about 7–10 days.¹
 - b. Try to locate Moab on a map (either in the back of your Bible or online).
 - c. Please read all of Genesis chapter 19, especially focusing in on the later portion detailing the origins of the Moabites.

¹ MacArthur, J. J. (1997, c1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed.) (Ru 1:19). Nashville: Word Pub.



i The Story of Naomi (Outline of Ruth)

- I. Sojourn in the land of Moab 1:1–22
 - A. Tragedy in Moab 1:1–5
 - B. Friendship and faith in Moab 1:6–22
- II. Ruth's first encounter with Boaz 2:1–23
 - A. Boaz's introduction 2:1–3
 - B. Boaz's discovery of Ruth 2:4–13
 - C. Boaz's concern for Ruth 2:14–23
- III. Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor 3:1–18
 - A. Ruth and Naomi's daring decision 3:1–7
 - B. Boaz's delightful duty 3:8–18
- IV. Redemption of Ruth by Boaz 4:1–22
 - A. The relative's refusal to redeem 4:1–6
 - B. Boaz's choice to redeem 4:7–12
 - C. The reward of redemption 4:13–22

Radmacher, E. D., Allen, R. B., & House, H. W. (1999). *Nelson's new illustrated Bible commentary* (Ru). Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers.

Theological Themes

At least seven major theological themes emerge in Ruth.

- (1) First, Ruth the Moabitess illustrates that God's redemptive plan extended beyond the Jews to Gentiles (2:12).
- (2) Second, Ruth demonstrates that women are co-heirs with men of God's salvation grace (cf. [1 Pet. 3:7](#)).
- (3) Third, Ruth portrays the virtuous woman of [Proverbs 31:10](#) (cf. 3:11).
- (4) Fourth, Ruth describes God's sovereign (1:6; 4:13) and providential care (2:3) of seemingly unimportant people at apparently insignificant times which later prove to be monumentally crucial to accomplishing God's will.
- (5) Fifth, Ruth along with Tamar ([Gen. 38](#)), Rahab ([Josh. 2](#)) and Bathsheba ([2 Sam. 11–12](#)) stand in the genealogy of the Messianic line (4:17, 22; cf. [Matt. 1:5](#)).
- (6) Sixth, Boaz, as a type of Christ, becomes Ruth's kinsman-redeemer (4:1–12).
- (7) Finally, David's right (and thus Christ's right) to the throne of Israel is traced back to Judah (4:18–22; cf. [Gen. 49:8–12](#)).

MacArthur, J. J. (1997, c1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed.) ([Ru 1:1](#)). Nashville: Word Pub.



ii **Moabites**

- (1) the Moabites' contemptible origins in the incestuous relationship of Lot and his daughter ([Gen 19:30–38](#));
- (2) the Moabites' resistance to Israelite passage through their territory when they came from Egypt ([Numbers 22–24](#));
- (3) the Moabite women's seduction of the Israelites and the latter's subsequent punishment ([Num 25:1–9](#));
- (4) Israel's constitutional exclusion of Moab from the assembly of the Lord ([Deut 23:3–6](#)); and
- (5) the recent oppression of the Israelites by Eglon the king of Moab ([Judg 3:15–30](#)).

Block, D. I. (2001, c1999). Vol. 6: Judges, Ruth (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; The New American Commentary (627). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.