

Read Ruth 3:10-18

10 “The LORD bless you, my daughter!” Boaz exclaimed. “You are showing even more kindness now than you did before, for you have not gone after a younger man, whether rich or poor.

11 Now don’t worry about a thing, my daughter. I will do what is necessary, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman.

12 But while it’s true that I am one of your family redeemers, there is another man who is more closely related to you than I am.

13 Stay here tonight, and in the morning, I will talk to him. If he is willing to redeem you, very well. Let him marry you. But if he is not willing, then as surely as the LORD lives, I will redeem you myself! Now lie down here until morning.”

14 So Ruth lay at Boaz’s feet until the morning, but she got up before it was light enough for people to recognize each other. For Boaz had said, “No one must know that a woman was here at the threshing floor.”

15 Then Boaz said to her, “Bring your cloak and spread it out.” He measured six scoops of grain into the cloak and placed it on her back. Then he returned to the town.

16 When Ruth went back to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, “What happened, my daughter?” Ruth told Naomi everything Boaz had done for her,

17 and she added, “He gave me these six scoops of barley and said, ‘Don’t go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.’”

18 Then Naomi said to her, “Just be patient, my daughter, until we hear what happens. The man won’t rest until he has settled things today.”

How did Boaz respond to Ruth’s invitation to marriage (vv. 10-11)? He praised her for her judgment in not selecting a younger man to marry. He promised to do whatever was necessary to make the marriage happen. Everyone in town knew Ruth’s reputation of being a woman of character.

What was the problem with the plan (v. 12)? There was another family redeemer who was a closer relative and he had the first claim on marrying Ruth.

What was Boaz’s proposal (v. 13)? He would talk with the other family redeemer and see if he wanted to marry Ruth. If he didn’t Boaz would marry Ruth for sure. Boaz did everything right.

What did Ruth do next and why (v. 14)? She stayed on the threshing floor at Boaz’s feet until early morning when it was still dark outside. No should know that Ruth was there or they might gossip.

What did Boaz do next (v. 15)? He gave her a lot of grain to take home with her.

What happened when Ruth went back home (vv. 16-17)? Ruth told Naomi all the news about what had happened with Boaz, including the other family redeemer.

What advice did Naomi give to Ruth (v. 18)? Be patient and wait. That is often the most difficult aspect of faith. Naomi knew Boaz would do the right thing and she trusted in God.