

Study Guide for May 20th, 2001. Series: Under His Care: Ruth 4 - The Fulfillment of Hope.

1. Describe a time that you were left speechless because something you had dreaded not only did not come to pass, but instead, circumstances turned out better than you could have imagined.

2. The Location: (Ruth 4:1-2). In the following references, what takes place at the **town gate**?
 - A. II Sam. 15:1-4:
 - B. I Kings 22:10:
 - C. Psalm 127:5:
 - D. Lam. 5:14:

Why did Boaz go up to the **town gate**? What did he expect would happen there?

3. The Land: (Ruth 4:3-6). Boaz explains to the unnamed **kinsman-redeemer** that he has an option to buy (redeem) the piece of land formerly owned by Elimelech.
 - A. Why do you think the unnamed **kinsman-redeemer** initially said yes?
 - B. Why does he change his mind and later decide **not** to redeem the land?
 - C. What can you conclude about Boaz by the fact that he chooses to redeem the land **and** to take Ruth in order to maintain the name of the dead with the property?

4. The Legal Transaction: (Ruth 4:7-10).
 - A. How was the land transaction formalized? (Compare with Jeremiah 32:6-10)
 - B. Why do you think the public nature of this transaction is stressed?
 - C. Ps. 101:2 states, "I will be careful to lead a blameless life—." Who is someone who motivates you to carry out all your dealings with the utmost of integrity?

5. The Family Line Continues: (Ruth 4:11-17).
 - A. How was the prayer of those witnesses at the town gate (vs. 11-12) answered?
 - B. Compare what the women of Bethlehem say here (4:14-15, 17) with what they said earlier (1:19).
 - C. What is Ruth commended for? How is she an example for us today?

6. The Legacy of FAITH: (Ruth 4:18-22).
 - A. How many names are listed? What is the significance of the list culminating with David?
 - B. Why do you think Matthew includes **Ruth** in his genealogy of Jesus? (Matt. 1:2-6)
 - C. What legacy do you hope to pass on through your children? While you cannot control their choices, what can you do to pass along a spiritual heritage? (See Psalms 37:25-26, 112:1-2, & 128:1-4)