

Ruth: A Story of Faith

Ruth chapters 1-4

Intro: How in the world did a Moabite woman end up in the genealogy of Jesus Christ in the opening chapter of the New Testament?

I am glad you asked. 😊

- I. Loss, loss, and more loss
 - a. Ruth's story begins with Naomi, who suffers tremendous loss
 - b. Naomi summarizes her sadness in Ruth 1:20-21
 - c. How does God want us to respond to pain and loss?

- II. Comfort, comfort, and more comfort
 - a. Ruth is aptly named; her name means "friend"
 - b. The amazing wedding text that is not from a wedding
 - c. The comfort God provides you is His abiding presence

- III. Blessing, blessing, and more blessing
 - a. The fruit of the Spirit is strong with this one named Boaz
 - b. Ruth is cared for, covered, and redeemed
 - c. This is a picture of God's provision, and redemption by Jesus

Close: The book of Ruth begins with Naomi's story of loss, and her bitterness towards God.

The book ends with a gift of new life, joy, and the community praising the LORD.

It also closes with a genealogy that is a key piece of the extended genealogy of Jesus Christ: our friend, our comforter, our guardian, our redeemer, and our Savior.