



## January 7, 2023 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "A Gracious Request"

(Ruth 1:6-8 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 1:6-8 ESV

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. [7] So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. [8] But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

### Background:

- Here we see that Naomi was the husband of Elimelech, and judges ruled and there was famine in the land of Bethlehem in Judah, and Naomi and her husband had two sons, and they found rest in the country of Moab. Then you see that Naomi lost her husband, and then her sons married Ruth and Orpah and they were married for 10 years, until those two sons died and it was just Naomi and her two daughters in law!
- There are losses, and because of that you see that even in the loss life still moves forward! That's something that can't be forgotten, and that's something that can't be ignored. Even though storms in life happen there's something that can't be ignored or forgotten, that the Lord is with you and the Lord will keep you. It gets hard, it gets tough, and it gets trying but even with that God is real, God is powerful, and God is amazing because God will give us power and not leave us behind and we can and will make it because God will keep us in spite of trials, trauma, and troubles God will keep us!

## “Loyal People”

- **As you think about this year, and as you continue to live this year it's time for you to evaluate the people who are in your life and why are they there? Why do you have some people around you, and do you trust the people around you or are you just keeping them around because you know them but are they bringing anything to your life? Too often we have people in our lives, but are they bringing anything to us, are they helping us, are they for us, and are they really who we need!**
- **Just because people are in your life doesn't mean that they want to be there but sometimes people are in your life because they like that you make it easy for them, you make it easy for them not to do more because they like who you are for them!**
- **Watch who stays with you when life knocks you down, watch who stays with you when you are feeling down, and watch who stays with you when life messes around!**
- **I need people in my life that are Godly, pure, and have a vision in my life! You don't need people in your life that are using you but can't feed you, I need people to feed me the Bible, feed me positivity, feed me hope, and feed me inspiration when I'm dealing with these problems!**
- **Why are you keeping some people in your life? What's the real reason that you are keeping some people in your life, have you become so common with them that you don't require anything more and they don't require any more?**
- **What connections are you making, have you made connections that are really meaningful and important or are you making connections that are too easy and are you trusting too quickly but you don't know or feel their hearts or spirit!**
- **Too often we have people in our lives, but are they bringing anything to us, are they helping us, are they for us, and are they really who we need!**

## “Watch Your Company”

- **Are there people in your life right now that make you feel despondent, make you feel miserable, make you feel bad, and make you feel unhappy but why are they still there?**
- **I need the right people in my life, I need people that will help me grow in God not help me sin, I need people in my life that will hold me accountable, that don't mind telling me I'm wrong, and don't mind letting me know that I shouldn't do that!**
- **Naomi's declaration for the kindness be extended to her daughters-in-law, it's the point that you look at the text and you see that they came back with her. It's important when you look at the text, and when you watch the text you can look at it in these few verses the importance of making sure that you have the right people in your life, the right people in your heart, and the right people who will make sure that you are good!**
- **Ruth and Orpah come back with Naomi, but there had to be some kind of relationship that would make them come back, not just coming back home but who**

**they came with! You have to make sure that you make the right connections, the right relationships, and the right friendships because making the right connections is how you stay up when you get knocked down, making the right connections is how you keep the faith, you keep the right energy, and you keep the right mindset because you have made the right connections!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Pray For The Right People in 2024!
- Ask God To Remove The Wrong People!
  - Read Mark 2!

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## January 14, 2023 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "When You Want To Be Left Alone"

(Ruth 1:9-11 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 1:9-11 ESV

The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. [10] And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." [11] But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?

### Background:

- Naomi was the husband of Elimelech, and judges ruled and there was famine in the land of Bethlehem in Judah, and Naomi and her husband had two sons, and they found rest in the country of Moab. Then you see that Naomi lost her husband, and then her sons married Ruth and Orpah and they were married for 10 years, until those two sons died and it was just Naomi and her two daughters in law!
- Then Naomi and her two daughters-in-law returned to the fields and country of Moab because the Lord had visited the people and had given them food. Naomi grants that the Lord show kindness to her daughters-in-law, because of how they treated their Mother-in-Law and stayed with her after they went to return to the place of Judah.
- That is something that is very key, that when you have those people in your life that stay with you make sure that you value them, and it is good to know to not forget who was there for you when times were hard, when times were troubling, and when times were difficult. Never forget who the Lord sent to be with you when times were trying and hard, and never forget how good the Lord is to you and don't forget how kind and loving people have been there. We all should never forget what has

happened for us, and we should never forget the love, the kindness, the loyalty, and the friendship that has been there for you through all of those times.

### “I’m Ready For A Departure”

- In this text Naomi acknowledges that she can’t birth any more children, because in Deuteronomy 25 there is an old Levitical law that when a Husband dies, that the widow would marry her husband’s brother.
- Stop taking the people who love you for granted, stop mistreating the people that were there for you in times of crisis, in times of setbacks, in times of grief, in times of heartbreak, and in times of struggle be grateful for those that were still there. It is something to be said about people that love a person that they don’t want them to leave, but they want them to stay because of the love that they have for them.
- You never know who and what a person can mean to them if you don’t give them a chance! Too often we don’t give some people a chance because we don’t think they have much to offer, but then we allow other people to have more credence not thinking that they aren’t who we think that they are.
- Love is a powerful weapon, love is a powerful tool, love is a powerful song, and love is a powerful melody because when I love you I refuse to leave you, even when you try to push me away I refuse and I won’t leave you because I know how much you mean to me, I know how gracious you have been to me, and I know how much you have been there for me I can’t leave you now!
- I like that about Naomi, she didn't try to hold it over their heads that she is the Mother-in-Law, and that it is because of me that you were able to even be married because you married my sons, but she didn't hold that over their heads.
- Sometimes that is what hurts people and relationships, because people will try to scheme and manipulate you all because of things and past experiences. However it is good when you have the right people in your life, because when the right people in your life they just appreciate you being there, they appreciate what you did, and they appreciate what you meant for them.
- Have you ever thought about, have you ever really just taken time to thank people who helped you through a bad day, a bad moment, a bad season, a bad crisis, and a bad scenario? Have you ever just stopped and told them thank you for that? Don't be so big that you can't come down to thank the people for what they have done for you, because of how they helped pull you through.

### “Staying Together”

- When we are together, really together we ought not let things break us apart! You see it in this text, that they didn't break apart even with the emotions that are all around, even with the feelings of tears, but even though they had all of these things

going on, they still didn't break apart! That is the truth you can't be broken apart or removed from somebody when they love you, and you see that you can't lose me when you have me. It is things like that which are real, and it is real because I know what you have done for me and how much you have been special to me.

- When you need real then be ready to accept it, because you can't put a price tag on real people and you can't put a price tag on what real value is. You ought to value people who have been kind to you, you ought to value people who have been faithful to you even after crazy stuff came out on you, you ought to be faithful to people that were there for you when you needed a helping hand, when you needed a prayer warrior, and when you needed somebody to be there for you to move some stuff, to help you take your medicine, and to be a friend!
- We need to always make sure that we always thank the Lord for the people that have remained in our lives, and we ought to thank the Lord that He stayed with us, and we ought to thank the people that didn't leave us alone or that didn't reject us but stood right there by us. That's why the Lord is real, and that's why we should always have the gratitude and thankfulness for who is there, and don't allow who has been there make them feel unappreciated, but let us make them apart of the story because there are just some chapters you can't write without loving people.
- **I am still alive, and I am still going on and making it, I am making it because the Lord has never left me. I am making it because the Lord has brought me through, and I am making it because I have grace and mercy on my side.**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Show gratitude to somebody this week!
  - Read John 13!

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## January 21, 2023 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "The One Who Stayed Pt. 1"

(Ruth 1:12-14 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 1:12-14 ESV

Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, [13] would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." [14] Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

### Background:

- We are now picking up with this text, because we have seen that Naomi, Ruth, Orpah have come back to Moab because there was food, Naomi and her daughters-in-law returned to Judah, and then Naomi wanted the Lord to bless them because of how they treated her. Then Naomi wanted the Lord to bless her daughters-in-law, especially because she couldn't have any more children, they were emotional and then they were determined to stay with Naomi, and then Naomi made it known that it was okay for them to leave.
- There is something about this that speaks powerful, and this is something that has power because Naomi wasn't afraid to release them and Naomi wanted them to be blessed, and as Naomi was there for them and now they are there for her. Even though there are emotional scars, even though there is emotional baggage, and even though there have been different valleys, but one thing that was real and that was true is that they stayed.

- That's the key is to make sure that you have the right people to stay with you, and don't allow the pains that you are dealing with make you lose hope or forget those who have been there with you. God has been there, God has blessed you, and God has kept you and because the Lord has done that and is doing that it is the Lord and nobody else. That is what brings me hope, brings me joy, and brings me peace that God is with me, and the right ones being with me is how I am standing, how I am still going, and how I haven't lost faith because God is with me.

### “Ruth Didn't Leave”

- Ruth has heard what Naomi has said that didn't cut off her love for her. There is something about that, and there is something that is real and key about that, because you know we need people in our lives that can and will handle us when we are not in the best frame of mind.
- You see that Naomi has this attitude in verse 13 of the text, but even though Naomi is feeling that way Ruth is the one that is still staying with Naomi, and you know that there is something else that happens in this text is that make sure that you have the right people with you when you're emotional.
- I get upset some days, I get emotional some days, I get teary-eyed some days, I get emotional some days, and I get troubled some days but that doesn't mean to abandon me but sometimes that just means I need you to be there with me. I need you to be there with me when I am like this, and you know it isn't anything wrong with having some tough days and for feeling the way that you do but even in that I still need a Ruth in my life.
- Who are your go to people, who are the people that you don't have to question where they are when you need them they just know, and who are the people that you really know will be with me all of the time. Stop thinking that you can trust everybody, especially when you are emotional. There's a different level of trust that comes into a person's life when emotions are high, because when emotions are high is when you see who is really real.
- When my emotions are high is when I need you to show up, not when I am smiling or when it seems like things are cool I still need you then, but I also need you when my emotions are high because sometimes my smiling is covering up my pain. Ruth is right here with Naomi, and I believe that is what you can't replace some people, and that is why we should always be thankful of those that have stood with us, and that are those that know me so well and that will most certainly give me the strength to keep going, and I definitely can because the Lord is with me.

### “A Prayer Partner”



- We need some positive influences in our lives, and we need some good people in our lives that will pick us up, that will stand with us not stand away from us, but can be with us and we need people that will pray for us! You need people in your life that know how to pray, you need people in your life that when they see you are hurting, when they can feel you are hurting, and when they hear the pain in your voice you need people that love you enough to pray for you!
- You need people in your life that are going to pray, pray with me over the phone, come to my house and pray for me, pray for me when you are around and you hear people asking for prayer requests, because instead of always arguing I need some prayer. I need prayer when I am weak, I need prayer when I am lonely, I need prayer when I am upset, I need prayer when I am disappointed, and I need prayer when I am going through these emotional rollercoasters and cycles, I need people to pray for me.
- I can pray and I will pray as well, but it doesn't hurt when there are those that want to pray with me, and when we pray together that is something that gives us that strength that we need to be able to stand still, stand firm, and stand together.
- The Lord will always stay with you, and because the Lord will stay with you it will make you be able to stand firm and stand still because you know that in the midst of my setbacks, in the midst of my trials, and in the midst of my mourning the Lord has let me make it.
- The Lord did it, and since I know that the Lord did it why should I ever stay silent or stay still but I know that the Lord is worthy of my praise, and I will praise Him that He stayed with me.

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Show gratitude to somebody this week!
- Read John 13!

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## January 31, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "The One Who Stayed Pt. 2"

(Ruth 1:15-18 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 1:15-18 ESV

And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." [16] But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. [17] Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." [18] And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

### Background:

- We are now picking up with this text, because we have seen that Naomi, Ruth, Orpah have come back to Moab because there was food, Naomi and her daughters-in-law returned to Judah, and then Naomi wanted the Lord to bless them because of how they treated her. Then Naomi wanted the Lord to bless her daughters-in-law, especially because she couldn't have any more children, they were emotional and then they were determined to stay with Naomi, and then Naomi made it known that it was okay for them to leave.
- There is something about this that speaks powerful, and this is something that has power because Naomi wasn't afraid to release them and Naomi wanted them to be blessed, and as Naomi was there for them and now they are there for her. Even though there are emotional scars, even though there is emotional baggage, and even though there have been different valleys, but one thing that was real and that was true is that they stayed. Then we also see that now Ruth is the one that has stayed,

even though Orpah has now left because now Naomi admits that she can't marry, Naomi is going through a bad season, and Naomi has given them the freedom for all to leave but Ruth has stayed.

- Even in trials, even in trouble, and even in tribulations the people who really love you won't leave you at all. The persons that love us will stay, and even though some stay for a season and leave that doesn't mean that they are bad or that doesn't mean that they are uneasy but it is because of the Lord that we are still here, and we see the right people will be our friends and family. We can't replace that, and because we can't replace it we should be glad that it stays and remains with us all of the time, and there is nothing that can replace what I have in those who have stayed with me!

### “Genuine People”

- Here is Ruth who has told her Mother-In-Law, that stop telling me to leave, but that I am coming back with you because your God will be my God, wherever you go I will be there, wherever you sleep I will sleep, where you die I will die, your people will be my people, and that if the Lord does anything else it will be because of death. Naomi didn't say anything else to Ruth, because once Naomi saw that Ruth was not going anywhere Naomi didn't say anything else about it.
- The voice of determination that flowed from Ruth was something that was powerful and majestic, because Ruth lets Naomi know that we are in this for the long haul, and because of my love, my affection, and my feelings for you I'm not going anywhere. It is the truth of the text, and Ruth shows us what it means to be a person of your word. Many times people will say one thing but do something else but I don't just need a person to tell me what they will do but I need you to show me it also.
- When you look at Ruth, we all should have some Ruth in us that we all make a determination that we won't be anything but ourselves, we make up our mind, we live in our own shoes, and we make it standing tall and not switching up!
- We are the products of surviving the struggle, surviving the hits, and surviving the bad times but the Lord has never left us, just like Ruth didn't leave Naomi God has never left us, God has turned His back on us, and we ought to be glad that the Lord has never turned us down. God has never turned us down but we are still here and we should be glad that we are still here, we should be happy that we are still here, and we should be encouraged that we are still here in spite of it all God has kept us.
- The same God for Naomi will be the same God for Ruth, and you know through all of our bad times and our good times one thing that has kept us together is the Church and the preaching of the word of God!

### “The Word Works”

- The preaching of the word will keep you going when life is crazy, when your family is crazy, when times are hard, when money is low, and when your spirit is tired. The preaching of the word has kept us throughout our history, thinking about slavery being falsely taught but once somebody started talking about freedom, liberation, and a brighter day it brought hope and reassurance that God was still there. The preaching of the word of God gave a person hope even when being disrespected, physically assaulted, verbally assaulted, and stripped of dignity hearing the word of God brought us back to understand we could keep going.
- The preaching of the word of God did that, because God has not quit on us others have not made it but we have made because the Lord has kept us.
- The Lord stayed with us, and then we think about Ruth staying with Naomi, it is a good thing that we always have the right things at the right time. Look at your life, and because you have seen the Lord do it you should always be thankful.
- You should be thankful and glad that you are still here, Ruth and Naomi were still here and they stayed together and that is the same with us, we are still here.
- The Lord will be there for you, and when you think about life you see often that there are just some things you can't replace. You can't replace all of the things that you have been through, but even though you have been through so much aren't you glad that you have a God-send person that will stay there, and that will never abandon you because God is right there with you, and God will send the right Godly people in your life that will stand by you!

### This Week's Goals:

- Show gratitude to somebody this week!
  - Read Ezekiel 18!

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## February 3, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "I'm Not Feeling The Lord Right Now"

(Ruth 1:20-21 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 1:20-21 ESV

She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. [21] I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

### Background:

- We have seen that Ruth & Naomi are together, Oprah has gone and now only Ruth and Naomi are left together, and we have seen that Ruth has told Naomi that she's not going anywhere, but that they will be together, their people are ours, God is ours, and that even when we die we are going to die together. It was that power, that relationship, and that connection that made things real, made things powerful, and made things what they are because the right connection will help you when you are faced with trials, troubles, and tribulations.

### "Broken Spirit"

- Naomi now has a gripe, complaint, and she is in her feelings because she has a feeling that the Lord has been mean to her, the Lord has been unfair to her, and the Lord has not dealt right with her. Naomi has made this known, because Naomi is the one that says: "Don't call me Naomi, but call me Marah" for the Lord has now dealt bitterly with me. The Lord has brought me low, the Lord has made me feel like this, and now I am angry and now I am bitter because the Lord has dealt this way with me.

- **Can't you picture her angst, can't you picture her disturbance, and can't you picture her sadness that has now crept into these unfathomable feelings of being completely disturbed and depressed. Look at the way Naomi talks about the Lord, and look at this text because Naomi is feeling this kind of stress, and you know that life can bring anybody down, life can bring anybody low, and life can upset us and bring us down to our core but there is something that you see that even though Naomi is down, even though Naomi is teary-eyed, and even though Naomi is weak there is still something that is true that Naomi is still alive.**
- You know even though you have been through some distressing times, even though you have been through some setbacks, even though you have been through some gruesome times, even though you have been through hard times, even though you have been through heartbreaks, and even though you have been your different seasons of storms you can still live. You can still live even though you have been through tough times, even though you have been through troubles, even though you have been through weak moments, and even though you have been through turbulence the Lord has still kept us.
- **You shouldn't find it easy to leave God after something troubling has happened, because we all will face some tough times, we all will face some mountains, and we all will face some valleys but that shouldn't mean that we have to leave the Lord, and that we shouldn't run away from the Lord but we have to hang in there with the Lord.**
- **Can you hang in there with the Lord when times are hard, can you hang in there with the Lord when times are uneasy, can you hang in there with the Lord when times are not always fruitful, and can you hang in there with the Lord when times are not always bright? The same way you love the Lord when you have a smooth road, ought to be the same way you love the Lord on a rocky road because the Lord has not stopped loving you, the Lord has not stopped being with you, the Lord has not stopped caring about you, and the Lord has not stopped showing up for you!**
- However, as you look at your life there are times that you can feel like the Lord has dealt bitterly with you, because it is like God why do I have to go through, Lord what is going on, and Lord as much as I love you, I just want to know and I need to know why am I facing this?

### **"You Will Make It"**

- **The Lord has allowed me to still be alive, and you know there's nothing that can beat that! I have made it through hard times, I have made it through trying times, and I have made it through valleys because the Lord wouldn't let me die! I have had some losses in life, I have had some demons in my life, and I have had some mishaps in my life but through all of that the Lord has still kept me!**

- Haven't you seen that even though we all have faced some burdens, we have faced some breaking days, we have faced some ugly days, we have faced some piercing days, we have faced some failing days, and we have faced some downshaft days because we all have had those days and it just seems like it is one thing after another and it makes us wonder why Lord.
- You can just look at your life all of the way, and we all have to deal with those times of feeling like that! We all know what it means to be like this, you know what it means to be rejected, you know what it means to be despondent, you know what it means to be wounded, you know what it means to be passed over, you know what it means to be overlooked, and you even know what it means to have sometimes a bad decision or mistake cost you! You know all of this, and you know how it feels to be like that, and even though all of that has occurred you can still look at your life and be able to testify that the Lord has kept me!
- **That's the best piece of news of all that the Lord has never left me! I know that I get roughed up, and life has roughed me up but even through all of that the Lord has still kept me here.**
- **The Lord did it, the Lord made it possible, and the Lord gave me life again! Life has been good, life has troubling, life has been tough, life has been rewarding, life has been toxic, and life has been sweet but through it all my hope in the Lord hasn't gone away! The Lord has let me survive, the Lord has let me make it through my valleys, and the Lord has let me make it through the different hurricanes in my life, and it was nobody but the Lord!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Show gratitude to somebody this week!
  - Read Psalms 89!

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## February 11, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "Let Me Go To The Field"

(Ruth 2:1-4 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:1-4 ESV

Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. [2] And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." [3] So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. [4] And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they answered, "The LORD bless you."

### Background:

- The setting is to be in Ancient Palestine, and it is said this word "glean" appears in 12 times. It is said that the poor, sojourners, widows, and orphans allowed them to gather standing grain in corners or borders of fields, as well as dropped stalks and left-behind sheaves.
- The name "Boaz" means - Fleetness, and some say "In his strength"
- Leviticus 19:9-10 ESV - "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. [10] And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.
- Leviticus 23:22 ESV - "And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your



harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God."

- Deuteronomy 24:19 ESV - "When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

### “Ruth Makes The Move”

- Don't get so attached and hung up on the familiar that you don't want to go somewhere else and new, because if you stay in the same place too long you can lose some fire, you can lose some relevance, and you can lose some sense of purpose all because you are here. Why suffer and stay hungry here, when you can go to a new field and you have what you need there, and you have an open door to receive it?
- Ruth goes to the field, and lands at the part of the field that is owned by Boaz, and then Boaz comes from Bethlehem and tells them that the Lord be with you, and that they said that the Lord bless you! It was the character and love of Boaz that comes through, and because of that it was Boaz that let's them know that they are to be blessed!
- You see it in the text that Ruth took the initiative! Ruth is the one that went to the field, everybody else is there and so is Ruth and Naomi gives her the blessing. Yet, there is something about Ruth taking the initiative that is important, that is valuable, that is meaningful, that is consequential, and that is significant. That is the steps one has to take, and these are the steps any person who wants, craves, and desires to have more that is when that person sometimes has to take it on themselves, not waiting on others, but you've got to go to the field!
- There's a difference between being a mover and a talker, a mover doesn't just talk but puts a plan into action because they want to achieve it but a talker just talks, a talker just talks a good game, but in talking a good game, that's all they have is talk and nothing else, and a person has to decide what do they want to be a mover or a talker!
- A person has to ask themselves that question - “What Am I Afraid Of?” The great ones aren't afraid of failure, because even if you fail at least you showed that you were willing to try! Are you willing to try, are you willing to take the risk, are you willing to ascend, are you willing to leave the comfort zone, are you willing to take that next step, are you willing to take that leap, are you willing to take that risk, because there comes a time that you have to decide what will you be known as - (Determined or Scared?)
- What are you doing, because you've got to do something! You can't wait on others, what are you doing, what are you doing because greatness and great things just don't happen because you want them to, but you've got to put effort into it.

### “The Value Of Women”

- **Women have been leaders, women have been pillars, women have been trailblazers, women have been movers, women have been special, and women have been catalysts for changes in life. Women have done great things in our world, in our homes, in our Churches, in our politics, in our schools, in our jobs, and just all around us! We should never forget what women have meant to us, and how much they have fought to get where they are!**
- **Ruth was a strong woman, and we ought to thank God for women that the Lord has blessed us with, especially because we all came from a woman and since we all came from a woman we should appreciate the women in our lives! You should thank God for your Mother, thank God for your Grandmother, thank God for that Aunt, thank God for that Teacher, thank God for that Principal, thank God for Counselor, and thank God for that Prayer Warrior we should always thank God for those women that have meant so much to us!**
- **Women have shown that they are smart, they are intelligent, they are powerful, and they are jewels! Women took discouragement, women took disrespect, women did things to make sure that food was on the table for the family!**
- **There are things that you just have to be honest about, that you have been through plenty of ups and downs but the Lord has given us the strength to go to the field! I'm not done I'm just getting started, that's sometimes what you have to say that I'm just getting started, and that even though I might have had some challenges, and some different circumstances in my life that were unfortunate but I'm just getting started because I know that there are greater things coming to me!**

### This Week's Goals:

- Read Proverbs 30 & 31, & pray for women!

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## February 18, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "When You Catch The Right Eye"

(Ruth 2:5-8 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:5-8 ESV

Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" [6] And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. [7] She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest." [8] Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women.

### Background:

- Here in these first 4 verse of Ruth 2, we see that Ruth finds out that Boaz who is a relative of Naomi has this field and it was then that Ruth went out to glean in this field, and in gleaning in this field it was then that Boaz shows up, and when Boaz shows up there was kindness that Boaz showed to them all through God's blessings.
- That is the truth, that is the blessing, and that is the power because you see it right here in the text what is valuable and what is important, because you see how when you take that step, when you don't desire to stay in one way, and when you have the chance and the opportunity to advance that is when you have to take it, and that is not when you allow to bypass you but you go forward, you go with it, and you desire to have more as long as you walk with the Lord, and follow the Lord that is when you will see what happens when you take the next step, and when you see what happens when you follow the Lord all of the way.

- Not following us, but you have to follow the Lord and when you take that next step and when you make that next step the Lord will surely make things happen that nobody else could. God will do it, God is with you, God has your back, God will bless you, and God will make things possible. God is that good to us, and God is the one that won't ever forget about us but we just have to make sure that we take that step and follow the Lord at all times and we will see how the Lord will surely take care of us at all times!

### “The Influence Of The Right Person”

- Here you see that Ruth is the one that caught the eye of Boaz, and the description of who Ruth is is explained and not only that but then you see that she was gleaning in the field, and according to scholars: “The reaping was performed by women while the assortment of sheaves was the duty of men-servants. The same division of harvest labor obtains in Syria still.”
- Sheaves were known to be a dry measure of 1/10 ephah, which was a grain and here is Ruth and other scholars have said that they were out there all day in the sweltering heat but Ruth had to take just a little rest, and Boaz referred to her as my daughter knowing the relationship between Ruth and Naomi, and Boaz told her that she didn't have to go to another field. Boaz gives Ruth unlimited protection, and now you see it in the text that you notice something that is powerful from this text and powerful from this passage that when you are who you are, when you remain who you are, and when you are your own person that is when people will be attached to you
- When you are positive, when you are responsible, and when you stay in your own lane as you look at the text God will send the right people to you. God will do that, but there is something else as you look at the text the same way you worked to get that open door or be successful, doesn't mean that you stop right after it comes.
- You are happy when you just remain in your own lane, you can live, you can smile, you can have joy, and you can have encouragement all because you are staying in your own lane. Just like Ruth was there in her own lane, and getting what she needed for both Ruth and Naomi and then you see that is when Boaz showed up, but as you and I walk with the Lord it is always important to live that standard and that motto, that I am just good in my own area and my own space. I am good just like that, because I am so focused on my own work, my own vision, and my own goals that I don't have time to focus on other things.
- Where is your focus? When you have the right focus it proves itself in your work ethic, when you have the right focus it shows itself that you start to get to that place that I don't have time to entertain stuff, I don't have time to hear about things and people that aren't helping me get better, and I don't have time to waste time because of where my focus is.

- Ruth gets the attention of Boaz, and Ruth here was just minding her own business not bothering anybody and not getting in anybody else's way but Ruth was in her own lane, own atmosphere, and she was just working and then Boaz shows up and asks who is that? There comes a time in a person's life, a person's walk, and a person's own individual walk with God to where you are comfortable in your own skin, in your own lane, and in your mode because you are at peace when you remain in your own lane.
- Some stuff you don't get back, and that is why you need to always make sure that you are living and enjoying your space because the Lord has given you that favor and that door.

### **“Taking Care Of Your Space”**

- **When I have goals, when I have vision, and when I have dreams my focus is on that, and my focus isn't going to change but I know that when I keep myself in the right frame of mind, in the right stratosphere, and in the right space I am good. That is the key, that is the picture, and that is the portrait you ought to paint that I am creating my own space, and in creating my own space everything can't get in my space, and everything can't mess up or disrupt my space because I have made a determination of what and where I am going to put my energy in!**
- **When I am in my space I am protecting my space, when I am in my space I am building myself spiritually, I am building myself mentally, I am building myself physically, I am building myself academically, I am building myself in what is going to make me great, and what is going to make me happy and when I am in my space, when I am building something I don't have time to see it pass. What are you doing with your space? When I am in my space I have made that determination to trust God, to be focused, to be committed, and to not miss my moments, ship, or my times of advancements!**
- **You have to learn how to take advantage of your space, and you see that there are those that will admire you and when the Lord puts favor on the Lord will give you a light that will make you stand out that you don't have to push people on you God will make people want to sit at your table!**
- **Don't ever forget how you got to where you are and also when the Lord gives you gifts do it for the Lord! Not only how the Lord has gotten you there, but also make sure that you keep the faith and in keeping the faith you see that because of where I am, and because of how the Lord has blessed me I'm giving it all that I have! When you look at your life are you giving the Lord and yourself the best effort?**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read Ecclesiastes 8!
- Write goals for yourself and pray over them!

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## February 25, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "When Favor Finds You Pt. 1"

(Ruth 2:9-11 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:9-11 ESV

Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn." [10] Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" [11] But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before.

### Background:

- Here we are at this point of the text, we have seen that Ruth has gone to work in the field, and that Naomi was cool with that and gave permission for that and Ruth indeed went into the field! While in the field, it was Ruth who was working that caught the eye of Boaz, Boaz was the relative of Naomi and in catching the eye of Boaz it was then that Boaz inquired of who this is!
- Scholars have said that Boaz first fell in love with Ruth when he saw her in the field, and then you see that Ruth and Boaz have a conversation, after Boaz finds out who she is. Boaz gives her unlimited access to his field, and tells her to stay in this field with the sheaves and the reapers!
- "The reaping was performed by women while the assortment of sheaves was the duty of men-servants. The same division of harvest labor obtains in Syria still." Sheaves were known to be a dry measure of 1/10 ephah, which was a grain. It is a

blessing when the work is done, and it is a blessing that when you do what is right, and when you follow what is right God knows how to elevate you, God knows how to bless you, and God knows how to make sure that when you are right the Lord always rewards because the Lord has your back!

### “Favor Knows Your Name”

- Favor isn't something that comes to everybody, favor is something that is special, favor is something that is powerful, and when you have favor you walk proudly, you walk boldly, and you understand that favor comes because of character! Ruth had character and her character spoke up highly for her! Her character made all of the difference, her character spoke up, her character made traction, her character made a lasting impression, and her character made her attractive and opened doors! That's what happens when favor is real, because when you have this kind of character that's when you will see these doors open up!
- Some doors can't open up just because you want them, but you can't force yourself into doors that your character can't hold up while you're there! Don't ask for what you can't upkeep, that's what happens when some people ask for what they can't upkeep, but as long as you are walking in the right path, walking appropriately, and doing what is right the favor is unlimited!
- I want that favor, I want that unlimited favor, and the thing is when you get favor don't forget how you got it, and don't act like you got it on your own! You see what Ruth did in the text, and this is something else about character because in the text you see that Ruth falls down in a spirit of humility, and because she's in the spirit of humility that shows her gratitude and appreciation!
- Nobody should ever be arrogant when the Lord has blessed you, arrogance is a bad taste, arrogance is a bad spirit, arrogance is not being kind, arrogance can show up in an insecure person, arrogance is not something that one should just have or display, not after you've come from nothing to something! Don't you remember the struggles, don't you remember the bad days, don't you remember the burdens, don't you remember the heartbreaks, and don't you remember what the Lord pulled you out of and pulled you through don't you remember?
- You have what you have now only because of what the Lord pulled you through! The Lord got you through that hard time, the Lord got you through that struggle, the Lord got you through that issue, and the Lord got you through those ruptures, that's how you made it because of the Lord! That's why we should always have an attitude of honor, an attitude of respect, and an attitude of dignity thinking about all of the things that the Lord has done for us!
- Ruth had everything she needed, and she got it because of being upright, being classy, and being honest! That's what happened when she fell down and acknowledged Boaz, and Boaz said I know what you did, and I've heard how you



left everything, even your own family to be there with your Mother-In-Law that's something worth talking about, something worth acknowledging, and something worth rewarding!

### **“The Effects Of Favor”**

- **Favor will cost you something, because favor isn't cheap but it will cost you something! If you knew what favor would cost you would you still want it, because favor is more than a plaque or a reward, but when you have favor it will cost you some friends, it will cost you a job, it will cost you some family members, it will cost you going in another direction, it will cost you many things, because when you have favor you don't choose to stay in the same way anymore, but favor pushes you to another direction!**
- **That's why I can praise the Lord, and that's why I am praising the Lord because the Lord has still brought me good things, the Lord has still made ways for me, the Lord has still kept me, and I know that with the favor that the Lord has given me in my life I'm thankful that the Lord keeps on making ways for me! The Lord has done it, and when the Lord opens those doors and when the Lord blesses you there's nothing that can take it away!**
- **Favor makes me shine, that's why I can shine and live in the sunshine and still keep my head up, still keep a smile on my face, and still keep on going with no stopping because there's a shine and a glow over me!**
- **That shine and glow can't be torn down, and that shine and glow continues to be bright, and that's all because the Lord did it, and I'm grateful that He did! That's why I'm upbeat, and that's why my praise to the Lord never stops, never goes away, and never fades away because I know that the Lord is real, I know the Lord is present, I know the Lord is powerful, I know the Lord is supreme, I know the Lord is great, and I know the Lord is amazing and that's why I will worship Him because He deserves it!**
- **The Lord is taking care of me every day, and you know when the Lord is taking care of me that's when I can keep the faith because I know favor is with me, and I know that favor doesn't leave me but I know God has me! When you know God has you, there's nothing that will stop you and even when you're faced with some challenges there's still something that we can all say and acknowledge that the Lord will always be with us, and the Lord will always guide us!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- **Read Psalms 91- Psalms 93!**
- **Praise God for His blessings on your life!**

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## February 28, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "When Favor Finds You Pt. 2"

(Ruth 2:12-13 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:12-13 ESV

The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" [13] Then she said, "I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants."

### Background:

- Ruth at this point has made a name for herself, and that name is shown in the midst of Boaz, the field, and her Mother-In-Law. It was Ruth that worked in the field, and gets the attention of Boaz, and then you see that Boaz gives Ruth unlimited access to the field, and then you see that Ruth fell down acknowledges that she doesn't understand how she earned this favor. Boaz tells her all that you did for Naomi has been told to me, and because of how you left home and everything to take care of Naomi!
- That was the key of this text, and that was the blessing of Boaz to Ruth, because Ruth did what she could and did it to the best of her ability out of her love for Naomi. It was Ruth that made sure to be herself, and in being herself that is when she stuck out to Boaz and because she stuck out to Boaz that's when you saw the blessings, you saw the favor, and you saw what happened when you do the right thing it will come back to you in the right way!
- Make sure you do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, and when you do right in the eyes of God that's when the Lord will open up the right doors for you! God will do it, and because God will do it you've got to follow the right ways, and always do

what's right because the Lord knows how to bless you, the Lord knows how to walk with you, and the Lord knows how to surely make you have a glow, have a strong faith, and have long-term unlimited blessings because the Lord will keep you and always look out for you!

### “God Blesses The Right Person”

- Here we see this as well, that you see that Ruth has been given a commendation, and that you see that favor is real because favor has no limits! When you look at the text, and you see that Boaz tells Ruth that this favor also comes from being under the wings of the Lord, and Ruth mentions that even though I'm not one of your servants I am thankful for what you have done for me in my life!
- Psalm 17:8 ESV - Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings,
- Psalm 36:7 ESV - How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- Psalm 91:4 ESV - He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
- That's where you see the importance of wings, because in looking at wings it is said that wings bring protection, wings make birds fly and soar high, and wings give stability! Can't you see that's how the Lord is, because the Lord knows how to keep you, the Lord knows how to bless you, and the Lord will give you access to His blessings when you are under His wings, when you are under His shadow, and when you let Him guide you!
- God is the one that will keep you when you get tired, when you get sick, when you get overwhelmed, when you get tired, when you get down, and when you just feel a little weak, that's when the Lord will pick you up and bless you! See.... When you do right by the Lord, that's when God will do right by you! I rather do what is right by the Lord, because when I do what is right by the Lord the Lord will see me, the Lord will make me strong, the Lord will never stop blessing me, the Lord will always give me an open door, but it is about me doing what is right in His eyes!
- My life is about pleasing the Lord, and when I'm pleasing the Lord I know that favor won't leave me! When I'm pleasing the Lord that's my focus, because God will open doors nobody else will, God will bless me unlike other people will, God will let me reach my dreams, God will let me reach new destinations, and God will let me reach places I've never been but I'm pleasing Him! When you please the Lord look at what happens, and when you do like Ruth just do your part the Lord is able to bless you, the Lord is able to make a way, and the Lord is able to never quit on you because God is on your side and always watching you!
- You've got to make that determination, and you've got to decide - “Who Do You Want To Please?” Are you pleasing the Lord or are you pleasing people, that's

where we all have to answer that specific question am I going to please the Lord or please people, but I would rather please the Lord because the Lord has never let me down, the Lord has never been unkind to me, and the Lord has never stopped showing up for me.

- Be careful where you try to fit into, be careful where you try to find joy, and be careful where you try to find happiness because if it doesn't start with God, and if the Lord isn't the one doing it I don't want it!

### **“The Way To Respond”**

- You ought to always tell people thank you for being there for you, thank you for being kind to me, thank you for loving me, thanking you for helping through my toughest times, my hardest times, and my setbacks! Thank you for everything you've done for me, and we ought to encourage one another because we all need encouragement in our lives! We need to be encouraged, and we all should always speak positive and kind words everyday to each other because the world needs love and encouragement
- We speak love by the words we choose, we speak words that are affirmative, and we speak words that are special because the world needs encouragement! Encourage people when they have done good, encourage kids, encourage your parents, encourage your grandparents, encourage your Pastor, encourage that usher, encourage that youth ministry worker, encourage that deacon, encourage that choir member, and we should always build each other up! Build each other, and encouragement goes a long way and because of encouragement it makes us keep working, it makes us keep pushing, and it makes us not give up!
- This word “favor” in the Hebrew means: “Grace”
- This word “repay” in the Hebrew means: “To be complete, to make whole, and restored.”
- There are just those things we should do, and you know favor will bless you in many ways! Favor gives you that management job, favor blesses you with an increase in pay, favor blesses you with that God sent spouse, favor blesses with increase in your social security, favor blesses you with the ability to afford college, favor blesses you with children, favor blesses you with the right home, and favor blesses you in many ways! We ought to thank God for favor, and when we have favor we can always make sure to live with joy and live with no regret when we have favor in our lives!
- We should always be glad for favor, and we should always be thankful for favor because the Lord doesn't have to do anything for us, but we should be glad for what God has done for us! God blessed you to preach, God blessed you to sing, God blessed you to still be alive even after some bad news about health, God kept you in the midst of a bad car accident, God has lifted you up out of a difficult period, a

**difficult situation, a difficult time, and a difficult struggle but favor still has kept us alive, and favor has allowed to still be us alive!**

**This Week's Goals:**

- Read Proverbs 8- Proverbs 10!
- Praise God for your life!

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## March 3, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "Free Access"

(Ruth 2:14-17 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:14-17 ESV

And at mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. [15] When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, "Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. [16] And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her." [17] So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.

### Background:

- We are now at this place in the text, that Ruth has made her mark with Boaz, and Boaz has his eye on Ruth now! You see it in the text, that Boaz has nothing but respect for Ruth because of everything that Ruth has done, and Ruth is humble and Ruth is thankful for how Boaz has treated her, and that the Lord repay you for everything you have done, and that Ruth has been comforted and welcomed in as a servant!
- Ruth and Naomi have been through it, but the Lord has still kept them in spite of what they have faced, in spite of what they've endured, and in spite of what has come on them they are still here. It is that right there knowing that you are still here, knowing that you are still alive, and knowing that when you are doing what's right the Lord will make you famous, the Lord will make you known, and the Lord won't forget about your works!

- That's the key of life, and that's a key ingredient of life is that we don't forget what the Lord has done, we don't forget who the Lord is, and we don't forget how much the Lord has meant to us! The Lord has been good to us, and as you walk with the Lord and as you think about life the journey should always make you happy, the journey should always make you celebrate, and the journey should always make you appreciate who the Lord is to you! Be glad for your journey, and understand that this has happened because the Lord has been good to me, and I can't do anything else but pay the Lord back with my character, my heart, my soul, my spirit, and my dedication!

### "Value Time"

- Life is always moving, something is always moving and going forward and as we live in life we have to understand the value of time! You know time is real, time is of the essence, time is valuable, time is precious, time is necessary, and you ought to ask yourself the question what am I doing with my time? Do I value my time, do I treasure my time, and am I being a valuable steward of my time because I have to look at myself and not allow time just to fade, but I need to make sure that I am giving my best effort everyday of my life because I'm thankful that the Lord gives me time!
- Have you thought about that, time is not coming back and we should never get so wrapped up or even have a false narrative that we always have time, time isn't coming back, time is not going to wait on us to get it right, and time is not going to freeze but time pushes every day, and every day we live we should be glad for the time that the Lord has given us, but we should also make the most out of out the time that we have because one day the time won't be there!
- Are you appreciating the breath that you are breathing, are you appreciating the moves that God has allowed you to have, and when you focus on life and look at life are you in this for the long haul and are you really thankful for time.
- When you realize time is the essence, and when you realize that time is always passing you make sure to take care of the open doors and blessings that the Lord has given you.
- Just because we have freedom doesn't mean we are doing anything with it, but when we have time what are we doing with our time, because time is a blessing, times is an open door, and time is a miracle that the Lord gives us every day of our lives but what are you doing with your time?
- Time is always moving, time is always leaving, and time is always exiting and you know you never want to get to that place in your life to where you can even depress yourself by missing out on time, and that you've allowed time to pass by!



## “Reflection”

- You know there are those that may not say it in public, but sometimes if you are in a private place you can talk to some people and you can hear the hearts of people, and they will tell you if I could go back I would do things differently, I would haven't been so timid, I wouldn't have been so afraid, and I wouldn't have been so passive! I would have taken some new steps, I would have done something different, I would have gone a different route, I would have listened differently, I would have spoke up, and I would have not allowed myself to get caught up in some webs, or even do some things that wouldn't have really made me comfortable, and have a sense of peace!
- We can't miss what the Lord has for us, and you ought to think about that as well because think about somebody writing your autobiography, and you're sitting in a chair and you look around your room and you see an empty wall that could have been flooded with achievements, but all it shows is regrets, closed doors, missed chances, and missed opportunities!
- Don't let time leave you, and don't let time vanish away from you because it won't come back! However, when I'm free and because I'm free I trust the Lord, and because I trust the Lord I'm not going to miss these chances, I'm not going to miss these doors, and I'm not going to allow my life to become a regret or become a marker of laziness, a marker of disillusionment, or a marker of being disgruntled but I'm going to make sure that I utilize my time!
- You ought to thank the Lord that the Lord has been with you, and you should praise the Lord because the Lord is worthy and the Lord has given you this access and given you this door how can you not praise the Lord? I will praise the Lord always, and I will never stop praising the Lord because I know that the Lord has kept me, I know that the Lord delivered me, and I know that the Lord has surely been kind to me and the Lord is kind to me all of the time.
- That's what my drive is every day to get closer to the Lord, and because that's my drive I'm not trying to let those days pass me by! I need the Lord every day, and when I have the Lord I'm not wasting time but I'm going to make sure that I know that the Lord is appreciated, the Lord is loved, and Lord I'm just grateful for how much you mean to me.

## This Week's Goals:

- Read Proverbs 18, Proverbs 19, & Proverbs 27
- How Can You Be A Better Steward Of Your Time?

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## March 10, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "The Spirit Of Boaz"

(Ruth 2:18-20 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:18-20 ESV

And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied. [19] And her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." [20] And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."

### Background:

- Here we are now at this place in the text, that Ruth has made her mark with Boaz, and Boaz has his eye on Ruth now! You see it in the text, that Boaz has nothing but respect for Ruth because of everything that Ruth has done, and Ruth is humble and Ruth is thankful for how Boaz has treated her, and that the Lord repay you for everything you have done, and that Ruth has been comforted and welcomed in as a servant!
- Ruth has been welcomed by Boaz, and Boaz has given Ruth unlimited blessings and favor! It's because of who Ruth is, and because of what she has done now she has this for. It's good when you do what is right, and when you are a follower of Jesus Christ and when you make sure that you do what is pleasing in the eyes of the Lord, that's when the Lord will always make sure that you are taken care of and that you are blessed!

- You are blessed because of God, and you are here because of God not anyone else but it is because of God! God has kept you, God has done it, and God has allowed you to be here and since the Lord did it be thankful! Be thankful that you are where you are, and be glad that the Lord will never leave you or let you down but will always be right there for you, and will take care of you!

### “The Redeemer”

- Boaz is labeled as the redeemer, and he is known as the “kinsman redeemer” and historically this kinsman redeemer was one that helped a relative who was in trouble. This kinsman redeemer was also one, that avenged, delivered, rescued, looked after the poor, and would buy a family member back that had been sold into slavery, and redeemed property, and would step in and marry a woman whose husband had died, whether he was a brother or relative but the redeemer would come to save her, and to keep the family lineage going.
- Genesis 38:8 ESV - Then Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife and perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother."
- Leviticus 25:25 ESV - "If your brother becomes poor and sells part of his property, then his nearest redeemer shall come and redeem what his brother has sold.
- Leviticus 25:47-49 ESV - "If a stranger or sojourner with you becomes rich, and your brother beside him becomes poor and sells himself to the stranger or sojourner with you or to a member of the stranger's clan, [48] then after he is sold he may be redeemed. One of his brothers may redeem him, [49] or his uncle or his cousin may redeem him, or a close relative from his clan may redeem him. Or if he grows rich he may redeem himself.
- Deuteronomy 25:5-6 ESV - "If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. [6] And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel.
- People don't have to be kind, but you should always appreciate the kindness that people have given to you. That's not something that we should take lightly, and that's not something we should be taking for granted but we should always be thankful for people that have been there for us when we have been down, when we have been hurt, when we have been broke, when we have been wounded, and when we have been disappointed somebody has been there for you, and you should be glad about that!
- Be glad for those people that have sacrificed their own personal time just to be there for you, be thankful for that parent that's supported you, be thankful for that

parent that's help raised your children, be thankful for that parent that's put money in your pocket, be thankful for that parent that's made sure to be there with you when you had surgery at the hospital, when you had a problem with a pregnancy, or when you just had a time of sickness be thankful for that!

- Look at Boaz being the redeemer for Ruth and Naomi, look at the way Boaz was right there for Ruth, and look at how Boaz made sure that Ruth was taken care of. That's a blessing that the Lord has done, and you know that's something that only God can do because it's always good to have a God-sent person, and when you have a God-sent person there should always be that gratitude that extends to us because be glad for God-sent people.
- Boaz steps in as the redeemer, and now you see Ruth comes back home to Naomi and brings back all that she got from the field. Naomi says may Boaz be blessed for the kindness he showed to you, and Ruth makes it known that Boaz is the reason for the kindness. Even Naomi said, may the Lord bless Boaz for the kindness that he extended to her, and that you see Boaz didn't have to be kind but he was and Ruth was humble to appreciate the kindness that Boaz extended to her!

### “The Right People”

- There's a difference between people and God-sent people, anybody can have people in their lives, but what are they bringing to your life, and are they giving you purpose, are they trustworthy, can they pray for you, or are they willing to love you through all seasons! Some people want to be in your life as long as you don't inconvenience them, but that's why you want people God sends, because people that God sends aren't people looking to do you wrong, people just want to be there for you, people aren't trying to do things with strings attached, people that will look out for you, people that will help you through your weaknesses and burdens, we all need God-sent people!
- That's what I want is people that have the heart of God! You need people in your life that have the heart of God, you don't need people in your life that take up space in your heart but don't know how to pour God's word, kindness, encouragement, and wisdom into your heart! Stop giving your heart and your mind to people that won't help you, but make sure that the people who are in your life are people that are going to be there, are going to help you, and are going to make sure that you are good!
- Jesus is the redeemer that will pick you up, that will deliver you from burdens, that will love you unconditionally, and that will always give you another chance. Think about the tough times you've had, think about the troubles you've had, think about the turbulence you've had, think about the struggles you've had, and think about the low points and low moments you've had in your live, and after all of that the

**Lord has kept you, the Lord has blessed you, and the Lord has kept you alive that's because He's our redeemer!**

- Jesus is the one that has saved us, and when we also think about us and our sins Jesus is the blood that saved us, Jesus is the love that covers us, and Jesus is the peace that holds and comforts us! Jesus is our victory, Jesus is our joy, Jesus is our hope, Jesus is our strength, Jesus is our deliverer, Jesus is our miracle worker, Jesus is our everything, and there's never a time that Jesus won't come through for you!
- **God keeps us alive and we ought to be thankful. Somebody knows about that, somebody knows about that drug overdose, that alcohol addiction, or another addiction that has been a thorn in your side, that's caused you to make some bad decisions, and that's even gotten you to the point of death but the Lord blessed you to still be here you ought to be thankful for that! That's been the Lord that has redeemed you, and you can be honest you haven't always made the right decisions but the Lord has still kept you alive in spite of that He's that kind of redeemer!**
- **The Lord has blessed us, and we should always think about how the Lord has brought us through the mud, brought us through the despair, and even brought us through the mistakes of our sins. We all have made mistakes, we all have sinned and fallen short but then the Lord made us stronger because He's been our helper, and He's been our restorer because sin can break us, sin can send us down some bad roads, and sin can make us do things that aren't right but God will love us so much. He will pull us back in to save our lives!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read John 15 & 1 Corinthians 15

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## March 17, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "Stay In Your Own Field"

(Ruth 2:21-23 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 2:21-23 ESV

And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.'" [22] And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted." [23] So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

### Background:

- Here we are now at this place in the text, that Ruth has made her mark with Boaz, and Boaz has his eye on Ruth now! You see it in the text, that Boaz has nothing but respect for Ruth because of everything that Ruth has done, and Ruth is humble and Ruth is thankful for how Boaz has treated her, and that the Lord repay you for everything you have done, and that Ruth has been comforted and welcomed in as a servant!
- Ruth has been welcomed by Boaz, and Boaz has given Ruth unlimited blessings and favor! It's because of who Ruth is, and because of what she has done now she has this for. It's good when you do what is right, and when you are a follower of Jesus Christ and when you make sure that you do what is pleasing in the eyes of the Lord, that's when the Lord will always make sure that you are taken care of and that you are blessed! Ruth has been given favor, Ruth has been redeemed by Boaz, Ruth has been given unlimited access in the field, and Ruth has been that favored and God

has looked out for Ruth, and Ruth has been that favored because she has that sparkle in her life!

- It is always a blessing to be blessed by the Lord, the Lord will always bless you and the Lord will always make a way for you and as you look at life be glad for the favor, and be glad for how the Lord has let people bless you! The Lord is the reason you are blessed, and the Lord is the reason that you have been kept and because the Lord blessed you and made things happen for you be glad about that, be happy about that, and be appreciative for that because of how the Lord has looked out for you, and how the Lord has blessed be grateful, be thankful, and be happy for the Lord has always been on your side.

### “The Field ”

- Now look at Ruth in this field, and according to historians this time of harvesting was between April and June, (Deuteronomy 16:9 ESV - "You shall count seven weeks. Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain.) That is where she is, after Boaz has been her Redeemer, and after Boaz gives her unlimited access to this field, Ruth gets advice even from her Mother-in-Law after she returns about staying in this field.
- This field that has blessed you, this field that has made you have this unlimited supply, this field that has given you this food, and the door that was opened for you to get here. Ruth is told don't leave here, so you don't get assaulted, but do what Boaz has said and stay close to those that I told you, and when you stay close to those I have already told them who you are, I have already told them how special you are, and I have already told them that you have what you need in this field.
- The Lord has done so much for us, and because the Lord has done so much for us we should be thankful and satisfied. What makes you ungrateful, what makes you not happy, and what makes you not glad by what you have it isn't about us comparing ourselves to others, it isn't about us being mad about what somebody else has that we don't have, because I am just glad for where I am, because I know I don't deserve that.
- Yet..... are you satisfied with what the Lord has done for you? Are you satisfied, are you good, are you content, are you improving, are you pleased, and are you happy with what you have? You can never be happy with what you have if you are always looking at what somebody else has, because the great thing about God is that the Lord will always bless us all, but God always has a field just with your name on it, and sometimes people mess up their blessings, because they are too busy trying to go into somebody else's field instead of being glad for the field that the Lord has placed them in.
- Naomi gave Ruth a good reminder of that in this text, and we and you should have that same reminder also that when the Lord is blessing and because the Lord has



blessed, be careful of trying to go somewhere that you really don't know about, that you really don't have information on, and be careful thinking that everything somewhere else is going to be good. Looks can be deceiving, because everything that looks good that doesn't mean it is, that doesn't mean you should do it, and that doesn't mean that you should leave what you got to go to what you don't know!

- How often have we made the wrong choices and the wrong mistakes, because we go to places and we go down roads that looked good, that looked appealing, that looked special, that looked like it was going to be something great only to discover it was one of the worst decisions that we made. Be careful going places that the Lord never told you to go, be careful doing things that the Lord never told you to do, and be careful involving or engaging yourself in things that the Lord never told you to, because that's when problems come, that's when storms come, and that's when some things happen that you can't walk back or even take back because God never told you to go there.

### “God Bless Me Where I Am”

- If you want to be happy, what are you doing to make yourself happy? You find happiness in Jesus, and once you have Jesus and let Jesus be your leader everything else falls into play. I can be happy with what God placed in my hands, because I'm just thankful for who God is, I'm thankful for what God does, and I'm thankful for how the Lord has kept me! There is stuff God has given you, that's for you and you know you don't deserve it but aren't you glad that God will make things happen, that even when it looks like I don't deserve God will make a way just for me!
- You should always be glad for what God has done, and as long as you are where God wants you then you are in the right place. Even though sometimes it feels like I'm stuck, sometimes it feels like I'm in this cycle, and sometimes I just feel like everybody else is doing great but here I am stuck, same thing, and seems like I keep getting passed up and passed over. Yet, the Lord is still saying some people will get it quicker than you or sooner than you, but just be ready when it is your turn and don't blow it when your turn comes because as long as you trust me, and as long as you follow me there is a turn coming for you just make sure you are ready for it!
- God knows what He's doing, God knows what you need, and whatever you do stay you. You stay yourself, nothing wrong with being you, and when you follow that principle God will bless you with doors nobody else will be blessed with. Stay you, God will bless you to obtain things nobody can snatch away from you just don't blow it! Don't blow that scholarship, don't blow your credit, don't blow your career, don't blow your marriage, don't blow your ministry, don't blow your reputation, don't blow your life, and don't blow your blessings by trying to get in the wrong field!

- Jesus is the one that has saved us, and when we also think about us and our sins Jesus is the blood that saved us, Jesus is the love that covers us, and Jesus is the peace that holds and comforts us! Jesus is our victory, Jesus is our joy, Jesus is our hope, Jesus is our strength, Jesus is our deliverer, Jesus is our miracle worker, Jesus is our everything, and there's never a time that Jesus won't come through for you!
- **Stay in your lane, watch how the Lord will bless you!**
- **That's what you have to do, and you know that when the Lord is on your side you have to make sure that you remain who you are! You are wonderful in the eyes of the Lord, and as long as the Lord has made you be glad for what the Lord has done for you, and be glad that you have been blessed by the Lord, and that the Lord has never left you and has never deserted you because when the Lord loves you, when the Lord is with you, and because the Lord loves you than you know that the Lord is always on your side!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read James 1 - James 2

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## March 24, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "Being Presentable With The Right Attitude"

(Ruth 3:1-5 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 3:1-5 ESV

Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? [2] Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. [3] Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. [4] But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." [5] And she replied, "All that you say I will do."

### Background:

- At the end of the barley harvest, in late May or June, the barley had to be winnowed, tossed into the air with a shovel allowing the wind to carry away the lighter chaff while the heavier grain fell to the ground. At night, someone would guard the grain against being stolen or eaten by animals. Apparently, this was Boaz's night to be on duty, and then the uncovering of the feet was a sign of dependance on him, a bold marriage proposal, and scholars have said that Ruth was seeking for Boaz to be her Redeemer!
- The threshing floor was said to be in the city, and it was located to the east of the city so that the westerly wind carried away the chaff. Ruth's lying down, showed her dependance on Boaz, Winnowing takes place after the threshing, and it is a labor-intensive process to separate the grains from the plant stalks. The process was conducted typically outside of the town where the person, using a pitchfork, threw the mixture into the air.

- The breezes blew away the unwanted, lighter components, allowing the heavier grains to fall to the ground. The process would be repeated until the grains were relatively free from the plant stalks. The breezes usually came up in the mid-afternoon and died out about sunset; it is possible that Naomi's reference to Boaz winnowing at night accommodates the festivities that normally followed a successful harvest and winnowing.
- Then we see that Ruth has been warned by Naomi to stay in her own field, and then you see that she stayed with her Mother-in-Law but you see that when you are following the Lord, and when you stay with the Lord the Lord will surely take care of you and will bless you!

### “Be Prepared For Christ’s Return”

- This word “wash” in the Hebrew means - Rinse, and then this word “anoint” means to anoint with sacred oil. This is a representation of what the Lord is showing us, and what the Lord is doing for us because we all should get to that place of looking at ourselves and asking ourselves.... “Am I presentable for Jesus.”
- That’s where one must ask, because when we enter the presence of Jesus do we enter with a clean spirit or with a dirty spirit! When you realize that we are coming to Jesus, do we bring our best to Jesus or are we bringing just a little bit to Jesus because as we follow Jesus there should be that change in us that we don’t continue to give the Lord the same thing, the same attitude, the same heart, and the same kind of mentality. When we are followers of Jesus Christ, and when we do follow the Lord, how much do we care enough about the Lord to make sure that we are presentable to Him?
- Do we bring a spirit of humility, do we bring a spirit of compassion, and do we bring a spirit of being clean? Are we clean in our hearts, are we clean in our minds, are we clean in our lives, are we clean in our lifestyles, are we clean in our ways, and are we clean in our homes? When we look around our lives, do we have that clean personality, and do we even care how we present ourselves in the presence of Jesus, because just because you get love from the world, doesn’t mean the Lord is pleased with us!
- One thing about the text, is that Naomi intervened but one thing that Naomi forgets is.... Ruth didn’t need Naomi’s help once Boaz saw her. It’s important to understand that, you don’t have to force yourself on people, you don’t have to do extra for people to get to notice you, and if people or a person wants you they will pursue you, they will come after you, and they will make moves for you to be there. I don’t have to force myself on people, when I know my worth and when I know who I am, why should I force myself people, when the Lord will let me stand out! Be careful of forcing yourself on people, and be careful of people sending you or trying to make a connection!

- **It doesn't matter what the world accepts if God doesn't accept it, because you can't rewrite God's word whatever the Lord says, is what is truth. No matter what culture says, no matter what people say, and no matter what various groups and organizations say, if it isn't lined up with the word of God, and if it goes against the word of God why do it? Do you really love God, do you really trust the Lord, do you really believe God, and the crux of the matter is.... Do you really respect God?**
- **Do you really love the Lord? Do you love Him completely, or do you only love Him because of Him blessing you? Do you just love the Lord on a temporal basis, or do you really love the Lord because when I really love the Lord I'm not going to purposely continue to spit in His face by not doing what He wants me to do! What am I presenting to the Lord, and what I'm giving to the Lord, and have I really cleaned myself up for the Lord, or am I just changing my outfit from world to God just when I need the Lord!**
- **That's something about the Lord that is critical and crucial, that I don't desire to mess up my relationship with the Lord we have been through too much, we have been through too much, and I love Him so much that I ought to come with the right spirit, the right presence, the right commitment, and with the right dedication!**

### **"Ruth's Approach"**

- **Ruth at least got herself ready to see and meet Boaz, and that's where the representation comes to place because you act differently when you have been delivered, you act differently when you have been lifted up, and you act differently when you have been blessed. Now when you have been blessed, when you have been changed, and when you have been set free you don't have to force yourself on others and you don't have to make it seem like you need to be sneaky but when you are who you are, that's when you will stand out and that's when you will make it because you know who you are.**
- **What kind of outfit are you wearing, in the text Ruth puts on her best clothes! What outfit are you presenting, does your outfit that you present is it Biblical, is it Godly, is it pure, and does it show what you have shouted about? Or is your outfit more satanic, more worldly, more unclean, more immoral, more about you than God? We ought to always make sure that we are bringing our best to the Lord, and every day we live shouldn't we ask the Lord is He pleased with us, shouldn't we wonder isn't the Lord is pleased with us, shouldn't we seek the pleasing and approval of the Lord, and shouldn't we want the Lord to be happy with us, because I don't want to miss Heaven because I was so busy living for the world and not enough for the Lord!**
- **Here is Naomi, who according to scholars was concerned about Ruth and in her concern for Ruth she comes up with this plan on how to get Ruth and Boaz together. So then you see that Ruth follows the advice of Naomi, and then Ruth waited to**

night and in the text you see that this uncovering of his feet was said to be in some circles that it was a form of sexual arousal, and to get the attention of Boaz and then you see that Ruth did what her Mother-In-Law suggested, because it was about keeping the family lineage together, from Boaz being mentioned as the Redeemer, and that there is that connection that you see in verse 2.

- If you're going to get with somebody make sure it is for the right reasons, and make sure you have the right spirit and function in your life. Don't get with somebody just because it looks good, or it looks like you see an angle but that's not the reason you get with somebody, and that you should get with somebody!

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read John 19 - John 20

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## April 7, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "My Redeemer"

(Ruth 3:6-9 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 3:6-9 ESV

So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. [7] And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. [8] At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! [9] He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer."

### Background:

- In these first 5 verses this is Ruth, who has been with Naomi and Naomi is conferenced for Ruth, and gives Ruth instructions on how to get the attention of Boaz especially because Boaz is the kinsman Redeemer. So Ruth washes, anoints, and goes to threshing floor not making herself known until it was time!
- Naomi tells her, to uncover his feet and lied down and that Boaz will give instructions and Ruth says that's what I will do! It's the the crux of the matter, that Naomi had that concern for Ruth, but you and so one and should know that when we walk with the Lord, and when we follow the Lord we know and understand that the Lord is always going to take care of us. You don't have to force yourself on anybody, but the Lord knows what you need and the Lord knows how to send you who you need, and we should be thankful for what the Lord has and is doing in our lives!
- Just make sure that watch yourself, watch what you do, watch how you carry yourself, and watch how you conduct yourself because your attitude, and the way

you do things should always be righteous! Be righteous, be kind, be loving, and be humble and when you are watch how the Lord will take care of you, and watch how the Lord will allow you to be a light to others but make sure that you are always doing what is right, and make sure that you keep the faith and the Lord will always elevate you and take care of you because the Lord lives and the Lord will keep you every day by being who you are, and it's nothing wrong with being who you are!

### “The Scene Between Ruth & The Redeemer”

- You can see the development can't you, Boaz has a good night and now he becomes startled and awakened by the fact that his sleep has been disturbed. The sleep was disturbed, but Ruth shows humility because Ruth makes it known that Boaz is her Redeemer, and not only that but then Ruth seeks Boaz by telling Boaz to spread his wings over her, and that's all because Ruth labels Boaz as her Redeemer. Boaz is that Redeemer for Ruth, and Ruth had no problem making that known that I know who you are to me, I know what you mean to me, and I know what you have done for me and because I know that I have to tell the truth, and I have to tell you the way that I feel!
- The meaning of the “Redeemer” in the Hebrew means - Redeem with God as the subject, and Redeem by payment but also out of exile.
- There's something to be said about that, and there's something that we shouldn't ever forget because we should never forget the people that have been there for us, we should never forget the people that have been loving to us, and we should never forget the people that have seen us at our best and worst we should never forget those people because the Lord has given us all God-sends, and that's something that should make us celebrate, and be thankful for the people in our lives that have been there for us every day!
- Ruth gives Boaz credit for who he is, but there's something to be said about this Redeemer because a Redeemer looks out for you, a Redeemer loves you, a Redeemer doesn't want to see you in a bad condition, and a Redeemer cares about you to where they will make sure you are good! Boaz took care of Ruth, Boaz looked after Ruth, Boaz showed kindness to Ruth, Boaz showed loved to Ruth, Boaz was there for Ruth, and you know there's something to be said about having the right one in your life, that's doesn't overlook you but that makes sure that they don't leave you or let you go because when somebody is really there, when somebody is existing in your life, and when somebody is that strong to you then it will make you acknowledge who they are in your life!
- Naomi may have given her insight into actions but she didn't tell Ruth what to say, but Ruth spoke it on her own. Ruth is the one that spoke up, Ruth is the one that had something to say, and Ruth is the one that acknowledged I'm your servant, and that you are my Redeemer. It is also a truth that I ought to be able to talk about



what has been a blessing to me, and I should be thankful for the people that have been there for me, and I should be thankful that I have a Redeemer.

- We should never not forget that person that has meant so much to us, and why do we struggle to express ourselves? You ought to express to a person what they mean to you, if you love a person tell them, if you are grateful for a person tell them, if you are feeling a person tell them, if you are thankful for a person tell them, if you are a beneficiary of somebody's kindness you ought to express that. It is nothing wrong with admitting that somebody helped you, somebody loved you, somebody helped you in your time of need, somebody helped you in a crisis, somebody helped you when times were difficult, and somebody helped you when things got tight or tough somebody helped you and since somebody helped you acknowledge that, express that, and don't be ashamed of that because kindness isn't uncommon when we all have the right attitude.

### “The Lord's Presence”

- The wings of the Lord are never old, they are never weak, and they are never without strength! You ought to be glad about that the Lord never loses power, there are times in our lives that you see that there are those who might lose strength, and you know even with animals there are times that animals lose strength, animals aren't as strong as they once were, and sometimes when it comes to wings and the Redeemer it's good to know that you can never get away from the protection of the Lord! You can never get away from the love of the Lord, you can never get away from the grace of the Lord, and you can never get away from the love of the Lord because He won't ever leave us or let us down.
- We all need some love, we all need somebody to talk to, and we all need somebody to represent the love of Jesus Christ! We need to spread the love of Christ, the love of Christ makes us better, the love of Christ makes us whole, the love of Christ makes us fruitful, the love of Christ makes us uplift each other, and the love of Christ makes us all more Godly we ought to share the love!
- We have a loving Redeemer, and because we have Jesus why can't we show love to each other?
- The change the Redeemer brings in us makes us want to change, that's something that should make us change that we ought to change the way we act, we ought to change the way we operate, we ought to change the way we speak, and we ought to change the way we think! We ought to want to be spiritually transformed by the Lord, and that's because I've been close and have been with my Redeemer, and since I've been living with my Redeemer I know that the Lord will produce the changes in my life that He wants me to have.
- The Lord will make us want more of Him, because the presence of God will make you want more of Him! You should want more of God in your heart, more of God in

**your life, more of God in your spirit, and the way I operate is different when I have more of God, the way I live is different when I have more of God, and the way I praise is because I have more of God.**

- **No matter what we are going through we need the Lord, and we need the Lord to show up every day! We ought to always thank the Lord that He is our Redeemer, but we need the Lord because when we have the Lord we know that we have relief, we have joy, and we can always trust in the Lord because we know that the Lord is our Redeemer! We should always trust in the Lord, and because we trust in the Lord and since we trust in the Lord, we know that in all things it will work out because the Lord got our back!**

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read Psalms 78 - 79
- Praise God for daily!

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## April 14, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## "Let's See What Happens"

(Ruth 3:14-18 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 3:14-18 ESV

So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." [15] And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. [16] And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, [17] saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" [18] She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

### Background:

- In these first 5 verses this is Ruth, who has been with Naomi and Naomi is conferenced for Ruth, and gives Ruth instructions on how to get the attention of Boaz especially because Boaz is the kinsman Redeemer. So Ruth washes, anoints, and goes to the threshing floor not making herself known until it was time!
- Naomi tells her to uncover his feet and lie down and that Boaz will give instructions and Ruth says that's what I will do! It's the crux of the matter, that Naomi had that concern for Ruth, but you and I should know that when we walk with the Lord, and when we follow the Lord we know and understand that the Lord is always going to take care of us. You don't have to force yourself on anybody, but the Lord knows what you need and the Lord knows how to send you who you need, and we should be thankful for what the Lord has and is doing in our lives! Then Boaz recognizes

Ruth and Boaz acknowledges Boaz as her Redeemer, and then Boaz tells Ruth that she is a worthy woman, and not only that but her kindness is unmatched and not just that but Boaz says that there is Redeemer who will be there if I'm not there, but if not stay here until the Morning then I will redeem you.

- There is that key of the text, and there is that special connection between Ruth and Boaz that continues to live, and the reason that continues to live is because when the right connections have been made, and because the right connections have been made we know and we realize that we should thank God because the Lord has kept us, the Lord has blessed us, and the Lord has seen us through. The Lord did it for us, and since the Lord did it for us we need to thank the Lord that He has never let us down, and the Lord has never abandoned us so we should thank God for the right connections.
- Everything we have is because of the Lord, and because of the Lord in our lives we are never alone, and we are never empty! God always has us in His hand, and because the Lord has us in His hand, we ought to thank the Lord that He keeps us, that He walks us, and that He shows up for us. The Lord does it, and we should be ourselves, and do what is right and know that the Lord is with us, and since the Lord is with us we know that He has our back!

### “The Blessing, The Patience & The Effect”

- You know that when the Lord blesses us, when the Lord blesses us we have been changed, and when the Lord blesses us we have been given an open door. We see that Ruth has been blessed, and you know when you have been blessed treasure and value your blessings that God has given you because none of us deserve them but we are grateful to have them. We should always be thankful for our blessings, because when you get blessed because you see in the text, that she didn't come back empty handed but had been given grain, which equated to 90 pounds of grain and didn't come back empty handed.
- There are times the Lord blesses us, but then we also have seen that the Lord at times will sometimes make us take it slow and sometimes we get led by the Lord because if we don't seek the Lord when we are blessed, sometimes we fall in stuff we shouldn't by not seeking the Lord. God blessed us but are we seeking Him, are you seeking Him before you make a purchase, are you seeking Him before you feel like you are ready for marriage, are you seeking Him before you apply for that job, are you seeking Him before you do certain things?
- The Lord makes us wait for a reason, and there are times that the Lord makes us wait so that we see what the Lord wants us to see, because we can't act like the Lord doesn't give us warnings. The Lord will give us warnings, and the Lord will reveal what is and what isn't good for us but that's why we ought to thank the Lord for blessings, but we should thank the Lord that he will make us wait.

- Don't be so quick to rush to get something that will make you settle and not make you happy! Sometimes we settle instead of being happy, because the minute we get something we feel like that we have made it or sometimes that we just take this and run off with it but is that the reason we aren't fulfilled, is that the reason that we aren't good, and is that the reason that we are missing somethings that we really need to see because we are engulfed with the blessing, but not using all our senses.
- There is something about that as well, because the Lord isn't always doing something for the right now, anything that the Lord blesses us with the Lord is giving us patience, the Lord is giving us a work ethic, and the Lord is giving us the reality that even when I have blessed you don't forget me and don't stop seeking me. When we have been blessed, keep seeking the Lord, and don't stop seeking the Lord because the Lord did it, and the Lord gave it to me and since He did it my life is about the Lord and I'm seeking God.
- Have we neglected the Lord, are we neglecting the Lord but there's something to be said about being careful about your life and being careful about how you live. The blessing is great, the blessing is special, and the blessing is amazing but there is also something that I realize that I shouldn't get too ahead of myself, and I shouldn't forget what got me here. I didn't get here based on luck, but I got here because of the goodness of the Lord, the grace of the Lord, the power of the Lord, the mercy of God, and the love of God.

### “The Power Of Prayer”

- Prayer is the key, prayer is communication, prayer is being dependent on God, prayer is faith in God, prayer is listening to the Lord, and prayer is seeking the Lord instead of seeking myself! You ought to pray, you ought to seek the Lord, and you ought to talk to the Lord but let the Lord talk to you, because it is always good to go to the right source!
- Ruth went to Naomi and Naomi gave her counsel, and that is the same thing in our lives that is why praying to the Lord is important. Prayer makes us live, prayer makes us full, prayer makes us feel the presence of the Lord, prayer makes us hear the Spirit convey and convict us, and prayer is the lifeline that always gives us the right source.
- Prayer is making sure that I get my daily bread from the Lord, and as long as I have my daily bread I know that I'll be alright, I know that I'll have the right direction, and I know that the Lord won't leave me or depart from me because I am seeking the Lord every day. Every day I need the Lord, and even in my blessings I still need the Lord, and as long as I have the Lord I know that I will be alright.
- Prayer is the fuel that will keep you going when you feel low, when you feel down, and when you feel tired prayer will always work! Prayer is strong, prayer is real, prayer is always working, and prayer is always saving us because we need to always

pray! Prayer is how you stay still, prayer is how you stay committed, prayer is how you stay strong, and prayer is how you stay in your right mind! Even when things are tough, trying, and difficult we still know that prayer works and that prayer will never leave us without knowing the Lord, or allowing ourselves to be closer to Him we have to trust in Him!

- Prayer and making sure that we are seeking the Lord, will make us not put things and even ourselves at risk! That's why we have to always pray, we have to always seek the Lord, and we have to always make sure that we keep on trusting in the Lord!
- Prayer is like that, and you know before we do anything we should pray! I want His blessings, but I want Him more because I need Him when I'm living in this life! I need Him when temptation comes, because we can be tempted in various ways and that's why we need the Lord because temptation can have you make some costly decisions, some bad decisions, and some decisions that weren't good for us because temptation can make you pick up wrong habits, temptation can make you do things that you can't take back, and temptation can have you following the wrong paths but that's when you need to pray and when you pray you know that the Lord will keep you, and the Lord will protect you!

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read Acts 12!
- Pray to the Lord at least 30 minutes each day!

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## May 5, 2024 Sermon Notes

### Sermon:

## “I’m Going For It”

(Ruth 4:1-4 ESV)

Sermon By: Pastor G. Chris Brown

### Sermon Text:

Ruth 4:1-4 ESV

Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, "Turn aside, friend; sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down. [2] And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down. [3] Then he said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. [4] So I thought I would tell you of it and say, 'Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.' If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you." And he said, "I will redeem it."

### Background:

- This text follows up Ruth 3:14-18, into which Ruth is sent grain on her return back to Naomi from Boaz, and then Naomi tells her that the matter would be settled today! Here is the matter, because you see that Boaz is here, the other Redeemer which Boaz mentioned in Ruth 3 another relative is here, and Boaz gathered 10 men to sit at the table, and these 10 men were known to do business and handle judicial affairs!
- The text opens up with this meeting that was known to be the meeting place for legal matters and social matters in the place of elders. Now you see that this assembly has now gathered, and then Boaz and the other relative are talking amongst themselves about who is going to get the land, and you notice something in the text that is

interesting and that is even a form of negotiation that Boaz says, if you redeem it then do it but if not I'm going to do it but I did let you know about it!

### “The Drive Is Real”

- You get to the place in your walk with the Lord and in your own space, you understand that I can't leave some stuff to chance, I can't let somebody else take what is mine, and when I have the chance to improve why let it go! When you have the chance to improve what is stopping you, what is limiting you, or are you limiting you because sometimes we can place blame on others when it is our fault, when it was our apprehension, and when it was our procrastination that caused us to miss it! Sometimes we miss it because we don't want to work or go for it, stop thinking that everything is going to fall into your lap because life doesn't work that way and neither does the Lord!
- We sometimes want stuff to just be handed to us, but have you ever paused and wondered why the Lord doesn't give you more? What are you doing with the gifts you already have, what are you doing with the skills you already have? You have it but what are you doing with it, or what are you afraid of because if I know that something is there for me that will be beneficial for me, my family, and my spirit I shouldn't delay reaching for it, I shouldn't delay wanting it, and I shouldn't delay going full throttle and walking by faith to get it!
- Some people miss success because they are scared to be successful, they are scared to leave home, they are scared of the unknown, and they are scared of what they don't know! Why be afraid if you trust God, or do you really not have enough faith and trust in the Lord, or have you not allowed the Lord and yourself deal with some scars, some demons, and some midnights from your past that are still making you not want to get more what are you doing? Have you let things keep you bottled up, keep you afraid, keep you down, keep you restricted, and keep you from wanting more and have you thought yourself out of blessings!
- The text is showing that you have to make up “YOUR OWN MIND.” You have to make up your own mind, and nobody can control your mind but you! It's on you to make up your own, because you'll never grow if you never make up your own mind! You'll never grow if you allow other people to control your mind, control your moves, or control your thoughts you'll never be able to grow that way but there are times you've got to make up your own mind, and in doing that you have made that decision not only to follow the Lord, but you've made the decision to go in a different direction!
- You are responsible for you, and you have to realize that especially if you are going to keep living and enjoying life, then what are you doing for your life to be whole? What are you doing for your life to be complete, whether that is going to a new destination for college, a new destination for a job, a new destination for your family



to be better and to maximize opportunities, what are you doing? What are you doing with your life, and do you need to take that stranglehold off of your mind, off of your heart, off of your mouth, and off of your spirit there's some stuff you got to let go of and get rid of if you're going to do more what are you willing to do to get it?

- Do you want the best or are you satisfied with the standard and regular routine?

### “The Reality Of Open Doors”

- Effort goes a long way, effort makes moves, and effort improves your work ethic and all that happens is because you made the steps. You have to make the steps, you have to make the effort, you have to make the change, and you have to make sure that you are always doing what is right and doing what is best for you! You can't have better if you aren't willing to make the move, the Lord is with you so what is hindering you, the Lord loves you so what is stopping you, the Lord is walking with you so what is the problem, and the Lord is your everything so why the pause if you believe in the Lord like you say you do, then live like it and stop being timid and scared!

- Do you really want the best, do you really trust the Lord, do you really believe that God will make a way, and do you really believe that the Lord will make a way? You don't have to question God's power, you don't have to doubt God's authority and ability, and you don't have to worry about the Lord's strength, but at the same time you have to look at yourself in the mirror, you have to examine your faith, and you have to look at you because what are you doing, what are you speaking, or are you just sucking up air with no purpose?

- You've been saying you want better what are you going to do, you've been praying for the Lord to bless the Church but what are you going to do now Church because once again the Lord is powerful in our hearts, the Lord is powerful in our walk, and the Lord is powerful in our midst but the Church can't just sit down, the Church can't just waste time, and if the Church doesn't want to do more than the Church will miss the door.

- The Church can miss the moment, the Church can blow the moment, and the Church may never see the moment again if the Church refuses to wake up, and if it just sits down when the Lord has given this door of progress, this door of anointing, this door of restoration, the door of hope, the door of new ministry, and the door of discipleship to make disciples and save the lost for His sake. The Church ought to be able to do the same thing, and the Church should want the best not just the average but the Church should want the best, and that is because the Lord is there, the Lord is real, and the Lord is working it out.

- We have to be a voice in our schools, we have to be a voice for mental health, we have to be a voice for cancer survivors, we have to be a voice for our kids, we have to be a voice for our communities, and we have to express our voice because we

know that the Lord is with us, and because the Lord is with us we ought to know that the Lord is going to work it out for us!

- Open doors don't come around every day, but you know that when you have open doors, and when the Lord has blessed you it will make you thankful, it will make you celebrate, and it will make you glad because of God's grace. You know the Lord's grace is something that you can't replace, that you can't duplicate, and that you can't recreate but when you have the grace of God in your life, and when you are doing that you will never have to worry about it because the Lord will take care of it, and the Lord will let it work out for you and the Lord will bless you, and will everything turn out alright.

### **This Week's Goals:**

- Read Acts 19!
- Pray for provision!

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