

# BREAKING BOUNDARIES

## THE STORY OF RUTH

Sermon-Based Study Guide  
Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

Ruth 4:13-22 | October 20, 2019

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### I. Introduction to this Study

This week we conclude our study of the Book of Ruth. God goes beyond the boundaries by blessings Boaz and Ruth with a son, Obed, who is the father of Jesse, the father of David - the family line of Jesus!

May you be encouraged by this biblical story on a personal level. Ruth is God's story of faithful love, which leads to restoration and blessing-both physically and spiritually...May we also be reminded daily, that Jesus brings restoration where there has been sin and rebellion!!!

### II. Connecting with One Another

What has been the most shocking part of the story of Naomi/Ruth/Boaz for you?

This past week have you been feeling empty or full?

Share your favorite genealogy story...

### III. Study the Text

- a. What made Obed, Ruth and Boaz's son, so special? *[He kept the family name from being lost. He would become King David's grandfather. He would become an ancestor of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1.5-6; Luke 3.32). He brought life and joy to Naomi. He was a testimony of the Lord's faithful provision.]* Other thoughts...
- b. What is meant by describing the child as "next-of-kin" or "kinsman-redeemer" for Naomi?
- c. How did God use Ruth and Boaz's baby., Obed, to be a source of blessing to many?
- d. How did Naomi's "empty nest" become full again? How do you think she reflected on her life and faith journey since she met Ruth? What can you really relate to in this Biblical story?
- e. Why do you think the story of Ruth concludes with the genealogy of David?

### IV. Pray

- a. May we at Good Shepherd receive a deeper understanding of what it means to invite all people to grow into a Christ-centered life in God's family?
- b. Pray for those who need the Lord's provision in their lives – physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

### V. Digging Deeper

- a. In the end the whole community welcomes Ruth. What do you think brought her from being an outsider to be accepted?



- b. Who do you know in your life (that the Lord has had you cross paths with) that may be feeling like an outsider? How might God be nudging you to respond to this individual/couple/family?
- c. Share from your experience with Scripture where Jesus was treated as an outsider?
- d. Where have you seen God providentially and redemptively at work in your life?
- e. Read Proverbs 3.3-6. How do these words of wisdom intersect with the story of Ruth/Naomi/Boaz?
- f. Take some time to re-read the Book of Ruth this week –what jumps out at you (again)...and how will this impact your life/faith journey in the days ahead?
- g. How is Jesus Christ your ultimate “kinsman redeemer”?
- h. What has the book of Ruth taught you about deepening your relationship with the Lord?

