



FAMILIES: ASSEMBLY REQUIRED
THE FAITH OF A FAMILY | RUTH 3
Pastor Mark Owens

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." - Ruth 3:1-5

Our faith grows when we seek God's way in God's timing.

Faith overcomes the past.

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?" - Ruth 3:1

Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw one of the daughters of the Philistines.² Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw one of the daughters of the Philistines at Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife." - Judges 14:1-2

And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.¹⁹ So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?"²⁰ She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me." - Ruth 1:18-20

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?" - Ruth 3:1

Faith increases when we follow the faithful.

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." - Ruth 3:2-5

Faith reveals godly character.



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." ¹⁰ And he said, "May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹² And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³ Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning." - Ruth 3:6-13

And he said, "May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman." - Ruth 3:10-11

Faith is demonstrated by our response.

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." - Ruth 3:14-18

- **Faithful families protect:**
 - 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." - Ruth 3:14
- **Faithful families show generosity:**
 - 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. - Ruth 3:15
- **Faithful families communicate hope:**
 - 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.'" - Ruth 3:16-17
- **Faithful families rest in God's plan and timing:**
 - 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." - Ruth 3:18