

RUTH 3:1-18

1. In verses 1-5, Naomi seeks to find security for Ruth and makes a plan to pursue it. Ruth agrees to do as Naomi says.
 - What exactly does Naomi want for Ruth? Compare Bible translations of 3:1 and take note of Naomi's words in 1:9-13.
 - What does Naomi's desire for Ruth teach you about a mother's heart for her child?
2. In verses 6-15, Ruth follows through with Naomi's plan and daringly offers herself to Boaz. We see the details of the interaction between Ruth and Boaz.
 - What is Ruth asking when she says "spread your covering over your maid"? Use the surrounding context as a guide and see also Psalm 36:7 and Ezekiel 16:8.
 - How does Boaz's response in verses 10-13 help you to understand the meaning behind Ruth's actions?
 - What does Ruth risk in offering herself in this way?
 - Boaz describes Ruth's actions as a great kindness. What does he mean, and how does this inform your understanding of this passage? Take note Naomi's words in 2:20.
 - Ruth's actions are an expression of her loyal love and kindness towards Naomi. In what ways can you model Ruth's selfless acts of loyalty and kindness?
3. Boaz agrees to Ruth's request and wants each step taken to be above reproach. Reflect on Boaz's conduct in verses 10-15.
 - What stands out to you about Boaz's conduct?
 - In what ways can you model this conduct in your own life?
4. In verses 16-18, Ruth reports the events of the night to Naomi. The passage ends in anticipation of receiving the rest and security that Ruth and Naomi sought.
 - How have you experienced the same type of waiting described in verse 18?
 - How can you find encouragement in this story during your own seasons of waiting?