



Is there more to my story?

The Book of Ruth
May 2022

jubileechurch



Home Group study: week beginning 5th June 2022

THEME: RUTH AND BOAZ

RUTH – HESSED LOVE & LOYALTY

1:16 But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

The type of love that Ruth has for Naomi is called Hessed love in the Hebrew. What are the key aspects of this type of love & how does it differ from other types of love?

Describe the Hessed love that God had for his people Israel and he now has for you.

Do you have this type of love for anyone who is not an immediate member of your family? What aspects of your relationship with them include Hessed type love?

Ponder this statement

'I tend to do what seems best, safest or most fulfilling for me, rather than what would be best for those around me. I can't remember the last time I risked my own happiness for someone else'

Give examples of how this statement might apply to you. How might the Holy Spirit help you change?

Who is the Lord directing you to love in a Hessed type way within or outside of the church?

BOAZ – CREATING ATMOSPHERE/SETTING THE RIGHT MOOD

2:4 Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, "The Lord be with you!"

"The Lord bless you!" they answered.

5 Boaz asked the overseer of his harvesters, "Who does that young woman belong to?"

⁸ So Boaz said to Ruth, "My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. ⁹ Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled."

Even these few verses demonstrate that within his farm, Boaz has created the right 'atmosphere'. What are some of the key elements of the working environment that he has created?

In what way was gleaning a particularly good model of 'caring for the poor'?

Boaz also needed to establish good boundaries by not letting his field workers effectively molest Ruth. What are some of the boundaries that we sometimes need to set as Christians?

How does 'Boaz's field' create a model for us accepting strangers into the church?

Pray that you will be able to create a Christian atmosphere in whatever situation you find yourself in.