

WHAT DOES NAOMI HAVE?

Ruth 1:1-19 (Review)

1 There was a **famine** in **Israel**. So a man **from** the **town** of **Bethlehem** went to **live** in **Moab** – Moab was a **foreign country**. He went with his **wife** Naomi and his two sons. 3 But the **husband died** in Moab. 4 Then Naomi's sons **married Ruth** and **Orpah** – they were two women from Moab. 5 After ten **years** Naomi's two sons **also** died. 6 Then Naomi **heard**: God **has given** food to Israel. 7 So Naomi and her **daughters-in-law** **started** going to Bethlehem. 8 But Naomi said to Ruth and Orpah, "**Go back** to your **homes**." 14 Ruth and Orpah **cried**. Then Orpah **kissed** her **mother-in-law** good-by. 16 But Ruth **answered**, "Do not **make** me **leave** you. **Where** you live I will live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. 17 Where you die I will die." 19 Then Naomi and Ruth started up the road – and **finally** they came to Bethlehem.

Ruth 1:19 - 2:23

19 **Everyone** in Bethlehem was **excited**. The women in Bethlehem said, "Is this Naomi?!" 20 But Naomi said, "Don't **call** me Naomi ('**pleasant**'). Call me Mara ('**bitter**') – **because Most Powerful God** has made my **life very** bitter. 21 I went to Moab **full**. But God made me **empty** – I have come back to Bethlehem empty. Don't call me Naomi ('pleasant'). God has **hurt** me – Most Powerful God has made my life bad."

22 Naomi came back to Bethlehem with Ruth the **Moabite**. **When** Naomi came back, the **barley harvest** was **beginning**. 2:1 And Naomi had a **relative** [in Bethlehem]. The relative's name was **Boaz**. Boaz was a good, **important**, **successful** man.

2 Then Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "**May** I go to the **fields**? I will **pick up** the **leftover** barley. Maybe a **farmer** will be **kind** to me – maybe a farmer will **let** me **glean** in his field. Is it **okay**?" Naomi said, "Go, my daughter."

3 So Ruth went to a field. The **farm workers** were harvesting barley – she **followed** the farm workers. And she gleaned barley. Ruth did not **know** it, but it was Boaz's field!

4 Then Boaz came to the field from the town of Bethlehem. He **greeted** the workers, "God be with you!" And the workers answered, "God **bless** you!" 5 Boaz **asked** his **foreman**, "**Who** is that **young** woman?" 6 The foreman answered, "She is the Moabite – she came from Moab with Naomi. 7 The Moabite asked us, 'Please let me glean in this field.' And she has worked **hard** from **morning till now**."

8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "My daughter, **listen** to me. Don't go to **another** farmer's field. **Stay** here with my **servant** girls. 9 Stay in my fields – and follow my servant girls. I **commanded** my men not to **touch** you. And when you are **thirsty**, you can **drink** from our water **jars**."

10Ruth **bowed** down to the **ground**. She said to Boaz, “I am a **foreigner**. Why do you **notice** me? Why are you **so** kind to me?” 11Boaz answered, “People **told** me **everything about** you – people told me what you did for your mother-in-law. You left your father and mother. You left your country. You came to live with people you do not know.” 12Boaz said, “I **pray** that God will **reward** you – that you will be **greatly** rewarded by **Creator God** – by the God of Israel. You have come to be **safe under** God’s **wings**.”

13Ruth said, “Please, **continue** to be kind to me. I am **lower than** your servant girls – but you have **comforted** me – you are very kind to me.”

14At **mealtime** Boaz said to Ruth, “Come over here.” Ruth **sat** down with the workers. Boaz gave her bread and **some roasted grain**. Ruth ate **until** she was full. 15When Ruth **got up** to glean again, Boaz commanded the workers, 16“**Put** some **stalks** of grain on the ground for Ruth – let her pick up the **extra** stalks of grain. Don’t **embarrass** her. Don’t **scold** her.”

17Ruth gleaned until **evening**. Then she **threshed** the barley. She got about twenty-two **liters** of barley – it was **a lot** of barley. 18Ruth **carried** the barley back to town. Naomi saw the barley 19and asked Ruth, “Where did you glean today? What is the farmer’s name?” Ruth answered, “His name is Boaz.”

20“God bless Boaz!” said Naomi. “God is **still** kind to us – and to our dead husbands.” Then Naomi said, “Boaz is our **close** relative – he is one of our **redeemers** – he is a redeemer for our family.”

21Then Ruth said to Naomi, “Boaz told me: ‘Stay with my workers until **all** my grain is harvested.’ ” 22Naomi said, “That is good for you my daughter. Stay with Boaz’s servant girls. In another farmer’s field, the workers **might** hurt you.”

23So Ruth stayed close to Boaz’s servant girls. Ruth gleaned in Boaz’s barley fields and **wheat** fields. She gleaned in Boaz’s fields until all the harvest was **finished**.

HOW DOES GOD TAKE CARE OF WIDOWS, ORPHANS, FOREIGNERS, & POOR PEOPLE?

Deuteronomy 24:17-22 & Leviticus 23:22

Deut. 24:17Be **fair** to foreigners, orphans and widows. 18**Remember** – you were **slaves** in **Egypt**. And remember that God **saved** you from **slavery**. That is why I command you: Be fair to foreigners, orphans and widows.

Lev. 23:22When you harvest your fields, don’t **cut** the grain **near** the **edge** of the field. **If** you **drop** grain in the field, don’t pick up the grain – **leave** it in the field. This grain is for poor people and for foreigners – let them take the grain. Do this because I am your God.

Deut. 24:19 When you harvest your fields, you will sometimes forget a sheaf of grain in the field. Leave the sheaf in the field – don't go back and pick it up. Let the foreigner, orphan or widow pick up the sheaf and take it home. Then God will bless all your work.

Deut. 24:21 When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, pick the grapes only one time. Don't go back and look for more grapes. Leave the extra grapes for the foreigners, orphans and widows. 22 Remember – you were slaves in Egypt. That is why I command you: Be kind to foreigners, orphans and widows.

CONTENT QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES NAOMI HAVE?

- Why was everyone in Bethlehem excited? (1:19)

- But **how** did Naomi **feel**? (1:20-21)

What **does** “Naomi” **mean**?

What does “Mara” mean?

How **bad** was Naomi’s **situation**?

- Who was **responsible** for Naomi’s **sad**, **difficult** situation? (1:20-21)

Why does God let **hard**, **bad** things happen to us?

You should think about it this way: Be very happy when you have hard times – because hard times test your faith in Jesus – testing your faith makes you strong so that you don’t give up – not giving up (for a long time) makes you mature. When you are mature, nothing is missing inside you.

James 1:2-4

hard times > test our faith > don’t give up (for a long time) >
become mature > nothing missing in us

If we give up, **can** hard times help us?

Creator God is responsible for our situation. But sometimes things are very bad.
Is it **encouraging** or **discouraging** that God is in charge of everything?

In every situation (good or bad) God is working for us – God is making every situation good for us. This is true if we love God... because God’s goal is to make us be like Jesus.

Romans 8:28-29

If God is for us – if God loves us and helps us – can anyone be against us? ...Nothing can separate us from Jesus Christ’s love – not trouble, not hard things, not persecution, ...not life, not death, ...not bad spirits, not the present, not the future... – nothing can separate us from God’s love, if we believe in Jesus!

Romans 8:31-39

Does this mean that we will **never** have trouble (if we believe in Jesus)?

- Naomi was discouraged. But did she **hang on**? Or did she give up?
Did Naomi give up on God? Did she stop having faith in God?
Or did she stay **connected** to God? (**compare** 1:21 & 2:20)
- Did Naomi think that God was powerful? (1:20)

- Naomi said: I came back to Bethlehem empty. (1:21)

But what 6 important things did Naomi still have? (1:19, 22 - 2:1)

(health, friends, God, Ruth, barley harvest, Boaz)

It is okay to tell God: I am very sad – I am in great trouble.

(We learned this last week.)

But what did Naomi forget to do?

Thank God in every situation.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Was God still taking care of Naomi? What do you think?

- What kind of character did Ruth have? What kind of person was she?

- Was she committed? (1:16-17)

- Was she loving?

- Did she take initiative? (1:16 & 2:2)

Whose field did Ruth glean in? Did she know whose field it was? (2:3)

Why do you think Ruth ended up in Boaz's field?

- Did she take risks? (2:2 & 2:11, 22)

- Did she work hard? (2:7, 23)

- Was she polite and thankful? (2:7 & 2:10, 13)

Do you think Ruth also felt nervous or stressed? (2:13)

- Did she have faith in God? (2:12)

What do you think of Ruth?

- What kind of character did Boaz have? What kind of person was he?

- How did he treat his workers? (2:4)

- How did he treat a poor, foreign woman?

How did Boaz protect Ruth? (2:9)

How did Boaz give Ruth what she needed? (2:8-9 & 14-16 & 21)

How did Boaz **compliment** or **praise** Ruth? (2:11)

How did Boaz bless Ruth? (2:12)

Did Boaz care about Ruth's spiritual condition? How much?

Did Boaz **focus** on Ruth's **status** (foreigner) or did Boaz focus on Ruth's character? (2:10-11)

Did Boaz only give **things** to Ruth? Or did he let her work hard? (2:14-17)

What do you think are the best ways to help people?

What do you think of Boaz?

Does Boaz remind you of God? How is Boaz like God?

- What encouraged Naomi? (2:20)
- Did Naomi care about Ruth? (2:22)
- What did Ruth do during the **whole** harvest **season**? (2:23)

HOW DOES GOD CARE FOR WIDOWS, ORPHANS, FOREIGNERS, AND POOR PEOPLE?

- How does God feel about foreigners, widows, orphans, and poor people?
- Why did God want Israel to be kind to foreigners, widows, orphans, and poor people?
What are the 4 **reasons**?
 - #1 in Deuteronomy 24:18, 22
 - #2 in Deuteronomy 24:17
 - #3 in Leviticus 23:22
 - #4 in Deuteronomy 24:19
- How did God take care of foreigners, widows, orphans, and poor people?
(Leviticus 23:22 & Deuteronomy 24:19, 21)

Why do you think God made them glean?

Why didn't God **just** give them food and money?

Why doesn't God say to the farmers:
Just give the grain to poor people?

Is it kind to only give poor people things and not help them work?

What do you think of Creator God?

what	何、何と
Naomi	ナオミ（ルツの姑）
have - had - had	自分のものにする、持つ、～がある、～がいる
famine	飢饉
Israel	イスラエル
from	から
town	町
Bethlehem	ベツレヘム（ダビデ王の故郷・イエスはこの町で生まれた）
live	生きる、住む
Moab	モアブ（イスラエルと死海の東にあった国の国）
foreign	外国の
country	国
wife	妻
but	しかし
husband	夫
die	死ぬ
then	そして、その場合、その時、そしたら
marry	結婚する
Ruth	ルツ（ダビデ王とイエス・キリストの先祖）
Orpah	オルパ（ナオミの嫁）
after	の後、ののち
year	年
also	も、それに
hear - heard - heard [pronunciation = heer - hrd - hrd]	聞く、聞こえる
has given	与えたことがある
daughter-in-law	義理の娘、嫁
start	始める、始まる
go back - went back - gone back	戻る
home	うち（家庭のいる所）
cry	泣く、叫ぶ、泣き声、叫び声

kiss	口づけする
mother-in-law	姑
answer	答える、答え
make - made - made	造る、作る、させる
leave - left - left	離れる、去る、出かける、出ていく、出る
where	どこ
finally	やっと、最後に
everyone	皆
excite	わくわくする
call	呼ぶ、呼びかける
pleasant	感じのよい、快い
bitter	苦い、苦痛な
because	～のため、～のせい、なぜなら
Most Powerful God	全能の神様
very	非常に
full	満ちる、一杯になる
empty (adjective)	空っぽ、空虚、虚しい
hurt - hurt - hurt	痛める、痛む
Moabite	モアブ人
when	その時、という時に、いつ
barley	大麦
harvest	刈り入れ、刈り入れする
beginning	初め、始まり
relative	親戚
Boaz	ボアズ（ダビデ王とキリストの先祖）
important	大切、重要な、大事な、重大、優れる、えらい（人）
successful	成功する
may	してもいいです（か）、よろしいでしょう（か）、許されますか
field	畑、野
pick up	拾う、持ち上げる

leftover	残り物
farmer	農家
kind	親切、親切にする
let - let - let	させる、許す
glean	落ち穂拾いをする
okay	大丈夫、はい、賛成です、よろしい
farm	牧場、農場
worker	労働者、働き人
follow	従う、後をついていく
know - knew - known	知る
greet	挨拶する
bless	祝福する
ask	尋ねる
foreman	監督
who	誰
young	若い
hard / harder / hardest	難しい、やりにくい、激しい
morning	朝
till	まで
now	今、もう、さて、それで
listen	(わざと) 聞く、聞き入れる、聞き従う、に聞く
another	別の、他の、もう一人、もう一つ
stay	いる、待つ、止まる、泊まる、滞在する
servant	しもべ、召し使い、従者、僕
command	命令する、戒める、命令、戒め
touch	触る、触れる
thirsty	渴く
drink - drank - drunk	飲む
jar	かめ
bow [rhymes with: cow]	ひれ伏す、お辞儀する

ground	地面、地、土
foreigner	外人
notice	気づく
so	そんなに
tell - told - told	伝える、話をする、教える、命じる、戒める
everything	すべて、全部
about	について、約
pray	祈る
reward	報い、報う
greatly	大いに、非常に
Creator God	創造者、創造主、天地創造の神様
safe	安全な
under	の下、のもと
wing	羽
continue	続けて、続く、続ける
low / lower / lowest	低い
than	より
comfort	慰める
mealtime	食事の時
sit - sat - sat	座る
some	ある分、いくらか、何人か
roast	炒る
grain	穀物
until	まで
get up - got up - gotten up	立ち上がる、起きる
put - put - put	置く、入れる
stalk	茎
extra	余分、別の
embarrass	恥かしめる
scold	しかる
evening	夕方

thresh	(穂を) 打つ、扱く
liter	リットル
a lot = much	たくさん、多い
carry	持っていく、運ぶ、背負う
still	まだ、今でも
close / closer / closer	近い・より近い・最も近い
redeemer	救ってくださる人
all	すべて
might	かも知らない
wheat	小麦
finish	終える
take care of (care for)	世話をする
widow	やもめ、寡婦、夫が亡くなった女
orphan	孤児
foreigner	外国人
poor	貧しい、貧しい人
fair	公平
remember	思い出す、偲ぶ
slave	奴隷
Egypt	エジプト
save	救う、助ける
slavery	奴隷制度
cut - cut - cut	切る
near	近く
edge	裾
if	もし
drop	落とす、落ちる
leave - left - left	残す、残る
forget - forgot - forgotten	忘れる
sheaf	束
work	仕事、働き、仕事する、働く、作業

grape	ぶどう
vineyard	ぶどう畑
only	だけ、のみ、ただ、ひとりの、ただ一人の、ただ一つの
time	～回
more	もっと、～より

how	どう、どのくらい
feel - felt - felt	感じる
What does _____ mean?	～は何を意味するのか
situation	状況、事態、状態
responsible	責任がある
sad	悲しい
difficult	難しい
happen	起こる
should	すべき、起こるべき
happy	嬉しい、喜ぶ、幸せだ
time	時、時期
test	試みる、試練、試し、試す、試験
faith	信仰（信仰＝信じること・神様を信じること）
strong / stronger / strongest	強い・より強い・最も強い
give up - gave up - given up	諦める
long / longer / longest	長い・より長い・最も長い
mature	熟する
nothing	何もない、何でもない、無
missing	欠けている、足りない
inside	中に、うち、内側
can - could	できる
help	助ける、助け
encourage (encourage each other)	励む、励まれる（互いに励まし合う）
discourage	落胆する、落胆させる、気持ちがくじかれた

in charge	責任ある、管理する、担当する
every	あらゆる、すべての
TRUE	真実
goal	目標
like	のように、に似てる、似る
anyone	誰でも、誰か、一人でも
against	に対して、に反して、逆らう
separate	離す
trouble	問題、迷惑、面倒、苦労、悩み、困難、患 い、困る、困らせる
persecution	迫害
life (1 life / 2 lives)	命、人生
death	死
bad spirit	悪霊、汚れた霊
present	現在
future	将来、未来
never	決して、一度も～ない
hang on	頑張る、持ち堪える
connect	つなぐ、結び付ける、関係する
compare	比較する、比べる
health	健康
friend	友、友達、友人
character	性格、人格
commit	献身する、決心する
initiative (take initiative)	率先（率先する）
end up	結局そうなる
risk	危険（を冒す）
polite	丁寧
thankful	ありがたい
nervous	緊張する
stress	ストレス
treat	取り扱う、扱う

protect	守る
need	必要とする、しなければならない
compliment	褒め言葉、褒める
praise	ほめたたえる、賛美する、褒める、たたえる
spiritual	霊的な
condition	状態
how much	どれほど
focus	注目する、集中する
status	位、地位、立場
thing	物、もの、こと
best (good / better / best)	最も良い
way	道、方、方法、生き方、やり方、仕方
remind	思い出させる、気づかせる
whole	全部、すべて、全体
season	季節、時期
reason	理由
just	ただ