



A Proposal for Provision

RECAP

In the laws that God gave to Moses and the Israelites, there were instructions given to Israelite men about caring for widows, specifically the widows of their relatives. Naomi was concerned about Ruth having a good home, safety, and comforts for life, so Naomi instructed Ruth on how she should find favor with Boaz (the guardian-redeemer of their family). Naomi told Ruth to let Boaz know that she was willing to have him be her guardian-redeemer. She told her to wash, dress in her best clothes, put on some perfume, and go to the threshing floor when Boaz would be working. She told her to lay at his feet at bedtime. Late into the night, Boaz woke up and found Ruth lying at his feet. He asked “Who are you?” Ruth said “I am your servant Ruth”. She let him know that he was a guardian-redeemer of her family.

Boaz thought it was very honorable and virtuous of Ruth to come to him when she could easily have attempted to find a younger man. Boaz listened to her request and responded that there was another who was more closely related than him. Boaz told her to wait, and that in the morning if the other man would redeem her, she should let him. But if the other man was not willing, then he would redeem her. Ruth didn't know what was going to happen, but what she did know is that she would be redeemed by someone, very soon.

As the chapter closes, Boaz sends Ruth home with 6 measures of barley wrapped in her shawl. Ruth took the barley to her mother-in-law and told her what had happened. Naomi said that they must now wait until they hear from Boaz and that the matter would be settled that day.



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SHARE (5-10 min)

1. What's the craziest thing that LOVE has made you do?
2. Was your marriage proposal...hot and spicy? Or chill and romantic?

STUDY (about 30 min) Read Ruth 3

1. What stood out to you about the passages or message on Sunday? Is there anything that was unclear, or that you have a question about?
2. Share about a time that you made plans, and nothing went according to that plan.
3. Ruth obeyed Naomi: Did she fully follow her instructions or partially follow them?
4. Ruth demonstrates tremendous guts and courage in coming boldly to Boaz, not knowing if he would accept her request. Can you think of a time God asked you to step out boldly for Him?
5. What do you need to bring to the "Threshing Floor" of God where He wants to crush and refine you so that you can serve and worship Him FREELY and authentically?
6. What is the significance of Ruth uncovering Boaz's feet?
7. What can we learn from these 3 individuals this week? Naomi – Ruth – Boaz
8. Waiting is often one of the most difficult parts of faith – when no more action can be taken, and nothing remains but to wait patiently for God to work out His will. How do you do when it comes to "Waiting on the Lord?"

SUPPORT (15 min)

PRAY: Share your prayer requests and spend some time praying that you can wait patiently for God's plans for your life to come to pass.