

Ruth: God's Will For Your Life

Ruth 2:1-23

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Ruth is given to remind us of God's heart to save.

remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

The story of Ruth is a story about us.

We do not know God's sovereign will.

We do know God's moral will.

God's moral will is for you to be holy as He is holy.

³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God. (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5).

What is God's will for my life?

"Your people will be my people and your God will be my God." (Ruth 1:16 NLT)

Five Principles to Help Determine God's Will

1. Cling to God's Character

In order to trust Him we must see Him correctly.

Jesus bought you at a great price. He will take care of you.

²⁰She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me." (Ruth 1:20)

Adversity is meant to bring a person into a deeper understanding of God's character.

¹²"The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" (Ruth 2:12)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

2. Be Faithful in Areas You Can Control

²And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." (Ruth 2:2)

Ruth can control how she views God.

Ruth can control how she responds to her situation.

You want God's provision and blessings, but are you faithful where He puts you?

3. Do Everything You Can Do

⁷"She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest." (Ruth 2:7)

God is more willing to guide you than you're willing to follow.

God punishes and disciplines us for right and wrong decisions, not right or left decisions.

We need to be faithful in areas we can control and do what we can do.

4. Be Faithful and Don't Grow Weary

⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)

Time and trials can get the best of all of us.

5. Your Faithfulness Today Will Open Doors Tomorrow

³So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. (Ruth 2:3)

⁵Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:5-7)

Big Idea: Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand and He will exalt you in due time.