



Flawed Heroes | Week 4

Bill Bush | 04.01.2023

BIG IDEA | Don't look for what's *BEST* in your eyes. Look for what's *BLESSED* in God's eyes.

Judges 21:25 (NLT)

²⁵ In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

Ruth 1:8-18 (NLT)

⁸ But on the way, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back to your mothers' homes. And may the Lord reward you for your kindness to your husbands and to me. ⁹ May the Lord bless you with the security of another marriage." Then she kissed them good-bye, and they all broke down and wept.

¹⁰ "No," they said. "We want to go with you to your people."

¹¹ But Naomi replied, "Why should you go on with me? Can I still give birth to other sons who could grow up to be your husbands? ¹² No, my daughters, return to your parents' homes, for I am too old to marry again. And even if it were possible, and I were to get married tonight and bear sons, then what? ¹³ Would you wait for them to grow up and refuse to marry someone else? No, of course not, my daughters! Things are far more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord himself has raised his fist against me."

¹⁴ And again they wept together, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi. ¹⁵ "Look," Naomi said to

her, “your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods.
You should do the same.”

¹⁶ But Ruth replied, “Don’t ask me to leave you and turn back.
Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people
will be my people, and your God will be my God. ¹⁷ Wherever you die, I
will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I
allow anything but death to separate us!” ¹⁸ When Naomi saw that
Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.

Ruth 2:2-3 (NLT)

² One day Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go out into the
harvest fields to pick up the stalks of grain left behind by anyone who is
kind enough to let me do it.”

Naomi replied, “All right, my daughter, go ahead.” ³ So Ruth went out
to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found
herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her
father-in-law, Elimelech.

Ruth 2:19-20 (NLT)

¹⁹ “Where did you gather all this grain today?” Naomi asked. “Where
did you work? May the Lord bless the one who helped you!”

So Ruth told her mother-in-law about the man in whose field she had
worked. She said, “The man I worked with today is named Boaz.”

²⁰ “May the Lord bless him!” Naomi told her daughter-in-law. “He is
showing his kindness to us as well as to your dead husband. That man
is one of our closest relatives, one of our family redeemers.”

FAMILY REDEEMER: avenger who would PROTECT impoverished
families. Would repurchase lost property, redeem relatives sold as
slaves, and provide an heir.

MUST BE ABLE: A relative, a Free person, Can pay the price.

MUST BE WILLING: To pay the price and marry the widow.

Ruth 3:8-13 (NLT)

⁸ Around midnight Boaz suddenly woke up and turned over. He was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet! ⁹ “Who are you?” he asked.

“I am your servant Ruth,” she replied. “Spread the corner of your covering over me, for you are my family redeemer.”

¹⁰ “The Lord bless you, my daughter!” Boaz exclaimed. “You are showing even more family loyalty now than you did before, for you have not gone after a younger man, whether rich or poor. ¹¹ Now don’t worry about a thing, my daughter. I will do what is necessary, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman. ¹² But while it’s true that I am one of your family redeemers, there is another man who is more closely related to you than I am. ¹³ Stay here tonight, and in the morning I will talk to him. If he is willing to redeem you, very well. Let him marry you. But if he is not willing, then as surely as the Lord lives, I will redeem you myself! Now lie down here until morning.”

Ruth 4:3-8 (NLT)

³ And Boaz said to the family redeemer, “You know Naomi, who came back from Moab. She is selling the land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. ⁴ I thought I should speak to you about it so that you can redeem it if you wish. If you want the land, then buy it here in the presence of these witnesses. But if you don’t want it, let me know right away, because I am next in line to redeem it after you.”

The man replied, “All right, I’ll redeem it.”

⁵ Then Boaz told him, “Of course, your purchase of the land from Naomi also requires that you marry Ruth, the Moabite widow. That

way she can have children who will carry on her husband's name and keep the land in the family.”

⁶ “Then I can't redeem it,” the family redeemer replied, “because this might endanger my own estate. You redeem the land; I cannot do it.”

⁷ Now in those days it was the custom in Israel for anyone transferring a right of purchase to remove his sandal and hand it to the other party. This publicly validated the transaction. ⁸ So the other family redeemer drew off his sandal as he said to Boaz, “You buy the land.”

Ruth 4:16-17 (NLT)

¹⁶ Naomi took the baby and cuddled him to her breast. And she cared for him as if he were her own. ¹⁷ The neighbor women said, “Now at last Naomi has a son again!” And they named him Obed. He became the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David.