

**LOVE STORY**  
Studies in the  
Old Testament Book of  
Ruth

**~Feb. 25-Mar. 3, 2007~**  
**“Bold Love”**  
Ruth 3



Life Groups

**Welcome** to UPC's study of the book of Ruth entitled "Love Story." Each week this discussion guide will help you reflect upon the Sunday sermon and apply its content to your life. Whether you work through these lessons on your own, with a friend, or in your family or LIFE Group, we believe they will help you become better acquainted with the God who, as in the case of Ruth, takes empty things and makes them full. If you ever miss a sermon, you can always listen to it online at [www.upc-orlando.com](http://www.upc-orlando.com).

**LISTEN**

*Record your insights and observations from this week's sermon:*

## SHARE

- a) This week, our story of Ruth will remind us that God's grace gives us the security we need to take risks. What is the riskiest thing you've ever done to get to know God better or serve Him?

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## REFLECT

- a) Read Ruth 3:1-4. How does this glimpse into Naomi's heart contrast with the picture of Naomi we saw in chapter 1?

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- b) When Naomi tells Ruth to put on perfume, visit Boaz at the threshing floor, uncover his feet, and lie down next to him (vss. 3-4), what is she up to? Is she simply trying to be a matchmaker, or is there something more significant involved in her instructions?

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- c) It might be argued that Ruth is trying to seduce Boaz in verses 7-9. But what clues in chapter 3 show us that Ruth is a woman of integrity in this midnight encounter with Boaz?

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- d) What are both Boaz and Ruth risking in this exchange at the threshing floor?

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e) When Ruth asks Boaz to spread the corner of his garment over her (vs. 9), what is she requesting from him? (Read Ezekiel 16:8, where the same expression is used. Also see Psalm 17:7-9 and 91:1-4, where “wings” is the same word as “garment.”)

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f) What had Ruth done previous to chapter 3 that had earned her the reputation as “a woman of noble [or virtuous] character” (vs. 11)?

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g) What did both Naomi and Ruth know about Boaz that enabled them to believe he would do what he said he would do? How did they come about this knowledge?

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**APPLY**

a) Although Boaz is an imperfect human being, he serves as a type, or illustration, of Christ. List as many resemblances as you can find in chapter 3 between the character and actions of Boaz and those of our Savior and Lord.

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b) In what specific ways has Jesus Christ “spread his garment over you”?

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c) Ruth 3 shows how bold people can be when they know they are loved and accepted by God. What is keeping you from being fully confident of the love of God for you?

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d) How might a parent use Ruth 3 to guide a teenage son or daughter toward a Biblical view of sex, dating, and marriage?

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