

LOVE STORY
Studies in the
Old Testament Book of
Ruth

~March 4-10, 2007~
“Redeeming Love”
Ruth 4



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.

LISTEN

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

SHARE

- a) We have seen in our study of the book of Ruth that Boaz shows Ruth and Naomi great kindness, culminating with Boaz's redemption of Ruth in Chapter 4. Describe a time when you received unexpected or undeserved kindness from someone.

REFLECT

- a) What does Boaz set out to do at the beginning of Ruth 4?

- b) According to verses 3-5, what was required of the kinsman-redeemer when redeeming a dead man's property for his widow?

- c) How is the transaction completed between the men in verses 7-10?

- d) What do you think the elders mean by the blessings in verses 11-12?

- e) Naomi goes from being "bitter" in Chapter to "blessed" in Chapter 4. In verses 13-17, what are the blessings that Naomi has received?

f) Read Ruth 4:12, 18-22. Now read Genesis 3:15 and Genesis 49:10. How did God use Ruth in the fulfillment of His promises?

APPLY

a) What is a promise that God has made that you have a hard time believing? What is a step that you can take to trust God more in this area?

b) How have you seen God bring about redemption in your life?

c) How can we at UPC remind each other of God's redemptive work in our lives and of our continual need for His redemption?

d) Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. Jesus is our great Kinsman-Redeemer. Write down the names of three people you can pray for, in order that they may come to know Jesus as their own Kinsman-Redeemer. Share your list (first names only) with your LIFE Group, and spend time praying for each other.

*My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?*

*He came from His blest throne, salvation to bestow;
But men cared not, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend, my Friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!*

(Samuel Crossman, 1624-1683)