



#4 "Trust In The Midst of Pain & Loss"

**The Equation To Trust God In The Midst Of Our Pain & Loss:**

Part 1: Trust = The PROVIDENCE of God

- Providence Is God Working Supernaturally, NATURALLY

Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? <sup>2</sup> Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. <sup>3</sup> Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. <sup>4</sup> But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." <sup>5</sup> And she replied, "All that you say I will do." Vs 1-5

**The Law of The Kinsman Redeemer** [See Lev 25:25-55 & Duet 25:5-10]

- To Ensure Inherited LAND Would Remain In The Family
- To Ensure The Continuation of Family LINEAGE

<sup>6</sup> So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. <sup>7</sup> And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. <sup>8</sup> At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! Vs 6-8

- Ruth Comes To Boaz In HUMILITY & SUBMISSION

<sup>9</sup> He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings<sup>[a]</sup> over your servant, for you are a redeemer." Vs 9

- Ruth Is Making A Formal MARRIAGE Proposal

<sup>10</sup> And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. <sup>11</sup> And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. Vs10-11

- The Story Of Ruth Is A Picture Of MUTUAL Submission (See Eph 5:20-25)

And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning." So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today." vs 12-18

*"God's Invisible Hand of Providence Had Reach Down To Naomi Through The Visible Hands Of Boaz."*

**The Equation To Trust God In The Midst Of Our Pain & Loss:**

Part 2: Trust = The Providence of God + The HECED of God

# Life Group Questions

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- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why? Is there anything you want to learn more about?
- This week we were introduced to the theme of God's providence; *"God Working Supernaturally Naturally"*. How have you seen God's providence in your life?

Read Ruth Chapters 3:1-18.

- The laws regarding the "Kinsman Redeemer" were about land and lineage. Why do you think land and lineage were so important for ancient Israel?
- Naomi's plan for Ruth to approach Boaz on the threshing floor was bold and risky. Discuss some of the risks and consider how you might have responded if you were Ruth or Boaz.
- What do Ruth's actions tell us about her character?
- What does Boaz's response tell us about his character?
- This story is a beautiful picture of the mutual submission (Read Ephesians 5: 20-25). Why do you think this kind of submission can be so difficult? What makes this kind of submission possible?

Food for Thought:

As husbands we often wish we had wives who submitted to us the way Ruth submits to Boaz. But do we provide the kind of godly leadership, care, and concern that Boaz showed towards Ruth and others?

As wives we often wish we had a husband who loved, cared, and treated us the way Boaz did Ruth. But do we show the same kind of humble submission and respect Ruth showed to Boaz?

- How has the Providence of God coupled with God's heced invited you to deeper trust and intimacy with Him?

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