

**Faith: Trusting, Walking, Living**  
*A Study in Ruth and Galatians*  
**Ruth 4:1–10**

**Read Ruth 4:1–10**

1. While Ruth is at home telling Naomi all about her night at the threshing floor, what is Boaz doing? (v. 1)

Why? (3:13, 18)

2. “The town gate was where personal business and civic affairs of the people were transacted.”<sup>1</sup> What would be a comparable place in our society?
3. Who was present on this occasion? (vv. 1–2, 9)
4. Why do you think Boaz calls over the town elders? (📖\* Deut. 25:5–10)
5. What matter did Boaz explain to the close relative of Naomi? (v. 3)
6. What suggestion does he make to this close relative? (v. 4)
7. Why do you think the transaction is initially attractive to the kinsman-redeemer?
8. Boaz then introduces the second part of the transaction. What responsibility goes along with the purchase of the widow’s land? (v. 5a)

\*The 📖 symbol indicates verses for further study.

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1 *The Bible Knowledge Commentary (Old Testament)* by Walter L. Baker, Craig A. Blaising, J.Ronald Blue, and Sid S. Buzzell, p. 426.

9. What did Boaz reveal as the purpose of the transaction? (v. 5b)
  
10. The transaction suddenly looks unattractive to the close relative when he realizes that the land would go to the first son born to Ruth. (📖\* Genesis 38:6–10)  
How would “acquir[ing] the dead man’s widow” (v. 5) endanger his estate? (Deut. 25:5–6)
  
11. By rejecting his responsibility to the family, what has the closest kinsman-redeemer made possible?
  
12. How do both parties legalize this transaction?
  
13. This close relative is translated as “Mr. So-and-So” in the original text. Why is this ironic, considering his reasons for rejecting his obligations as the closest kinsman-redeemer?
  
14. What reason does Boaz give to the witnesses for marrying Ruth? (v.10)
  
15. Professor Doug Green defines life in ancient Israel as a continuum from being “most alive” (having descendants and enjoying one’s inheritance in the land) to being “most dead” (when one is buried outside the land without descendants). “[Ruth 1:1-5] describes the death of a family. Father and sons dead, buried outside the land of promise. And no descendants. Elimelech is ‘terminally dead.’ The line is ended. Naomi herself is in a living death.”<sup>2</sup>  
How does Boaz as kinsman-redeemer bring life back to Elimelech and Naomi? (see also v. 13)
  
16. How were we “completely dead”? (Eph. 2:1–3, 11–12)
  
17. How did Jesus, our Kinsman-Redeemer, bring life to us? (Eph. 2:4–9, 13)