

# ***Fort Payne church of Christ***



## **The Weekly Moment**

*A Weekly Motivational Message*

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

### ***My Name Is Ruth***

My name is Ruth. As a young girl, I was raised in the country of Moab. Little did I know what would lie ahead for me. Little did I know that I would play a role in the lineage of the Savior.

During the time of the judges when there was a famine, an Israelite family from Bethlehem – Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and their sons Mahlon and Chilion – emigrated to my country. Elimelech died, and Mahlon married Ruth and Chilion married Orpah.

After about ten years, Mahlon and Chilion also died in Moab. Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. She told Orpah and me to return to our own mothers and remarry. Orpah reluctantly left; however, I loved Naomi and did not want to leave her. I told her, *"Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus and more may the Lord do to me if anything but death parts me from you"*.

We then returned to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest. In order to provide for our support, I went to the fields to glean. As it happened, the field I went to belonged to a man named Boaz, who was kind to her because he had heard of her loyalty to her mother-in-law. I told Naomi of Boaz's kindness, and I gleaned in his field through the remainder of barley and wheat harvest.

As time went on, it became apparent to me that Boaz had feelings for me and we were eventually married. Boaz was a kind and generous man. We had a son, Obed, who would eventually be the grandfather of King David. David was my great-grandson.

Little did I know when I pledged my loyalty to Naomi and returned to her homeland that God had great plans for me. I would be loyal to her at any costs and for that, God rewarded me with a family heritage that would lead to the Savior of the world.

What an amazing plan God had for a series of “little” things that all added up to important pieces in His big plan. God intended for me to be a part of the story of the lineage of Jesus. So, He pulled together events such as the famine, Naomi’s relocation to Moab, our return to Bethlehem, Boaz’ bloodline, and many other events just to ensure that I could be a part of His plan. And God can do the same thing in your lives today.

Think about it.

Here’s hoping you’ll make the “*most of your minutes*” this week.

Hope to see you at Bible Study tonight.

In Christian Love,

***Bob Strickland***