

Discussion Questions for Ruth 4

Read Ruth 4

1. What specific actions did Boaz take to set the scene for the discussion with the other guardian-redeemer?
2. Do you think that Boaz genuinely wants to marry Ruth, or is he trying to find a way out?
3. How do you feel about the guardian-redeemer's obligation to marry Ruth? What do you think was going through the other man's head as he considered the implications of marriage to Ruth? What do you think led him to decline the responsibility?
4. Given that Boaz named himself as a backup guardian-redeemer, do you think it was honorable for this man to pass the duty on to Boaz? Do you think that this was the response that Boaz intended? Why or why not?
5. Why do you think there was the need for the sandal exchange in front of witnesses?
6. Why do you think the elders prayed a blessing that included many famous names from the Bible: Rachel, Leah, Perez, Tamar, and Judah?
7. After reading the complete story of Boaz's negotiations, do you think he acted honorably towards Ruth? The other man? God?
8. Think of a time when you have had to reach agreement about something potentially life altering. How did you approach the problem? Were you successful? Were you honoring to both the other party and to God?
9. Why do you think the people of the town prayed this blessing over Naomi? What do the words imply about Ruth?
10. What kind of character and faith do you want to pass onto your children, grandchildren, or those that you interact with regularly?