

Ruth

The story of Ruth is a story of upheaval and change. A story of commitment and determination. Ruth's mother-in-law, after her husband and Ruth's husband had died, begged Ruth to return to her own people as she had no more sons to give to Ruth.

Ruth's response, often quoted from verse 16: "Where you go, I will go. Where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Commitment, Determination, Faithfulness.

The two women, now without husbands to provide for them, journey to Bethlehem together. Naomi told the townspeople to call her "Mara," which means bitter, saying that the Almighty had dealt bitterly with her.

And yet, a divine appointment awaited Ruth. It was then the beginning of the barley harvest. Ruth asked that she might go into the field and glean among the ears of grain. And glean she did in the field of Boaz, a rich kinsman of Naomi's late husband!

Donna Britton

Dear Lord, how often we see no hope in sight. And yet, You are there with us, guiding our steps in the direction you desire us to go. You were there with Naomi. You were there with Ruth. Open our eyes that we might see You Lord, Emmanuel, which means, "God is with us." Amen.

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Meeting of Ruth and Boaz | Marc Chagall | 1960