Praying The Book of Ruth

Heavenly Father, You are the One and Only God! O Lord, You are a great and loving God! You bless us with Your lovingkindness every day! The story of Ruth in the Bible mirrors the love story that You have for us. As we read and study Ruth, may we love You more and more as we glean truths from this story.

You are so good to us! You know our names and You know where we are at all times. You know where we are from, our heritage, our past. You understand the circumstances that led us to the choices that got us where we are today. In times of need, You never abandon us. When we leave our home and family, You go with us. Even when death comes and leaves us grieving, You still reign and work out Your sovereign plan in our lives.

And Lord, You visit Your people and give them bread. You graciously provide for Your own. In times of famine, we can rejoice because we know one day it will end. You love Your people and bless them. And as people hear of Your goodness, it fills them with hope and they want to go to be where You are working and blessing people. O Lord, may we see the blessings that are around us each day. May we have open eyes to see them so we can cherish them. We believe that You are providing blessings for us just as You provided Naomi with two daughters-in-law who proved to be loyal companions.

As Naomi verbally set them free, help me to know when and how to release people who are bound to me. When appropriate, give me words to say and strength to do it. Let love bind our hearts always, but as situations change, help me to know when and how to walk on alone and when to send someone away. And, as we go our separate ways, we trust You to guide us beyond today. Thank You God for the people You that you have already and will bring into our lives. May we cherish them each day, knowing that some people come into our lives only for a season.

Surprise us, O Lord, with people that choose us even in the hard times, when our attitudes aren't right or when we are making mistakes. But let it be You, God, that binds us together. May we love others because they love You, the way Ruth chose Naomi and clung to her. Let Ruth serve as an example of how to follow You, for she showed great faith forsaking her own family and her former gods. She had met You, O God, the true and living God, and she left all behind to follow You. I pray that I will demonstrate my faith as well with undivided loyalty; that I will chose You, even when it means leaving all else behind.

O Lord, as I come to a new place, may my steps be directed by You. May relationships be blessed by You from the very beginning. Ruth found herself gleaning in Boaz's field. I pray that I find myself being exactly where You want me to be! When I meet people You have prepared to be in my future, cause us to extend favor to each other. Bind us in love and friendship for Your glory that we may serve others around us.

Lori Hickey. October 20, 2026.

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I pray new people will pursue a relationship and desire fellowship with me. I pray that they will bless me and I in turn will share my blessings with others for the glory of Your name. I pray that I, too, can be included in the circle of blessings, for the glory of the Lord.

Ruth worked hard in the field for her and Naomi to eat. When she had parched grain, she saved back some and gave it to her. When Naomi saw the abundance of food, she gave a blessing to Boaz. He had blessed Ruth for the kindness shown to the living and the dead after the death of her husband. Naomi, when she learned that it was a close relative who had shown kindness to Ruth, recognized it as the kindness of the Lord being shown to her. This caused Naomi to praise the Lord! Hope restored, kindness shown, and blessings given. Oh Lord, You are so good!

Boaz demonstrated many character traits similar to the ones we see in Jesus Christ. Boaz did this in his interactions with Ruth. He initiated the action by finding out who she was, then he introduced himself to her. He gave her the invitation to stay close to him during the harvest and he provided water and food for her. Boaz knew he was instrumental in giving Ruth refuge and that it was the Lord who used him in this way. He is a type of Christ. As a kinsman-redeemer, he bought back their land for inheritance to secure their property stayed in the family. He provided food and drink, comforted them, and loved them well. Boaz was a servant of God who helped restore hope and secure their future. Dear God, please provide us with Christ-like people to help us in our time of need. And when we are in the strong and healthy places ourselves, help us to be Christ-like toward others in need.

Naomi saw opportunities to mentor Ruth in the appropriate ways, advising her to the customs of the Israelites about gleaning, kinsman-redeemer inheritance, and threshing floors. O Lord, as there is opportunity, please give me a mentor to show me the way. Let my ways be gentle and my love for You be evident to all.

When it is time to go, to act, to make a move, let me go forward in confidence knowing You are with me. But when it is time to sit still, let me wait patiently, full of faith, until You make a move. I know that You are working even when I can’t see or don’t know the details. I trust, O Lord, that You are working things out behind the scenes. As Boaz secured the rights to become the kinsman-redeemer, let others work things out so that there is no impropriety or wrong doing. When it is of You, let it be done right. And in the waiting, may I stay in peace.

God, You care and provide. Boaz took Ruth as his wife. Then Lord, You blessed them with a child. It is a blessing when You work things out for good in our lives. How gracious You are!

Help me to remember that my actions impact future generations. May I see and notice Your hand at work, then let me praise Your name and leave a legacy to generations that follow.

Amen.

Lori Hickey. October 20, 2026.