

Going For It – By Faith

Ruth 3

A Foundation for Acting on Faith

1. Do I believe God put together Ruth and Naomi's circumstances?
2. Do I believe God always operates the remote control of heaven?
3. Do I believe God wants what is best for me as His child?

I. Naomi acts in faith (Ruth 3:1-4)

- A. Naomi plans for Ruth's future based on her knowledge of God's providential work already (3:1-2).
 - Faith recognizes God's goodness and current activity.
- B. Naomi tells Ruth to approach Boaz about marriage (3:3-4).
 - Faith means taking action based on a correct knowledge of God and the situation.
 - Faith point: Act in faith, but put on perfume (verse 3)!

II. Ruth acts in faith (Ruth 3:5-9)

- A. Ruth agrees to take the risk of approaching Boaz (3:5-7).
 - Faith means risking misunderstanding and rejection.
- B. Ruth asks Boaz to take the responsibility of marrying her as her kinsman-redeemer (3:8-9).
 - Faith sometimes means the courage to ask for grace.

III. Boaz acts in faith (Ruth 3:10-18)

- A. Boaz agrees to be her kinsman-redeemer (3:10-13).
 - Faith means facing a cost and obstacles.
- B. Boaz makes a pledge of his commitment (3:14-18).
 - Faith requires making a commitment.

When God prompts our Faith (John Ortberg)

1. There's always a _____ – Something specific
2. There's always a _____ – Doing what frightens us
3. There's always a _____ – God's presence
4. There's always a _____ – Do nothing or act
5. There's always a _____ – More faith or more fear