

## **The Backstory to Naomi's Bitterness**

### **1. Naomi's Hard Fall**

### **2. Where Do You Turn to Find Rest?**

### **3. Empty Handed in the House of Bread**

Conclusion: In this fallen world there are lots of hardships. What will you do with yours? *Christ has promised us something better than just recovery—redemption.* For Naomi and Ruth that meant waiting on the promised Messiah and His provisions in the present. How are we called to cling to Christ and His people? God gives us the stories of Ruth, Naomi, and Orpah as *our* stories. The account of who we are together as a people. The collective memories of God's faithfulness and lovingkindness. He has patiently nurtured countless Naomies. We need to wait on the Lord together in faith and we will see His redemption to fullness in Christ.

## **Romans 8:1-11**

*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.* <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

## **Ephesians 4:1-6**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to *walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,* <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, *with patience, bearing with one another in love,* <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit*—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, *one baptism,* <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

## **Colossians 3:12-14**

<sup>12</sup> Put on then, as *God's chosen ones,* holy and beloved, *compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,* <sup>13</sup> *bearing with one another* and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

## **Romans 12:9-13**

<sup>9</sup> *Let love be genuine.* Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> *Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.* <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.