

My/Our Story – How Does This Apply Today?

1. God Redeems/Rewrites Our Story By Changing The _____.

Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. ¹⁷The women living there said, “Naomi has a son!” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.
Ruth 4:16-17 (NIV)

God is _____ At _____.

Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
Ephesians 2:12-13 (NIV)

2. God Redeems/Rewrites Our Story By _____ Even The _____ Areas Of Our Lives.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 (NIV)

3. God Redeems/Rewrites Our Story By Giving Us _____ To Share The _____ Of Grace With.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. ⁵For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. II Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.
Hebrews 2:17-18 (NIV)

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)



Pastor David Redmond

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But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.”

Ruth 1:16-17 (NIV)

The LOWER Story – What Happened In History?

Elimelek = “My _____ Is _____”

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. ²The man’s name was Elimelek, his wife’s name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.
Ruth 1:1-2 (NIV)

Bethlehem = “House Of Bread”

Naomi = “My _____”

Now Elimelek, Naomi’s husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband. Ruth 1:3-4 (NIV)

“Don’t call me Naomi,” she told them. “Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. ²¹I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.”
Ruth 1:20-22 (NIV)

Mara = “_____”

“...It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD’s hand has turned against me!” Ruth 1:13b (NIV)

So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.
Ruth 1:22 (NIV)

When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her,
she stopped urging her. Ruth 1:18 (NIV)

Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before.¹² May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”
Ruth 2:11-12 (NIV)

“The LORD bless him!” Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. “He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead.” She added, “That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers.
Ruth 2:20 (NIV)

“Who are you?” he asked. “I am your servant Ruth,” she said.
“Spread the corner of your garment over me,
since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family.” Ruth 3:9 (NIV)

Four Requirements Of A Guardian (Kinsman) –Redeemer

The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.²⁴ Throughout the land that you hold as a possession, you must provide for the redemption of the land.²⁵ If one of your fellow Israelites becomes poor and sells some of their property, their nearest relative is to come and redeem what they have sold.
Leviticus 25:23-25 (NIV)

- **Must Be A Close _____.**
- **Must Be Free From _____.**
- **Must Be Able To _____ The _____.**
- **Must Be _____ To Pay The Price.**

A Guardian-Redeemer became the purchaser of the inheritance for the family, and the provider and protector of the family.

The UPPER Story – What Is God Doing?

Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him.¹⁷ The women living there said, “Naomi has a son!” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.
Ruth 4:16-17 (NIV)

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ~¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Hebrews 2:14,15; 17,18 (NIV)

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.¹⁶ Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
Hebrews 4:15-16 (NIV)

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.
I Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. II Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.
I Peter 1:18-23 (NIV)

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Matthew 23:37 (NIV)