

Uprooted

Series: “*Winds of Change*”

Message #1: Ruth 1:1-19, 22b

EBC

September 2, 2018

Ruth 1:1-19, 22b (CSB) - *During the time of the judges, there was a famine in the land. A man left Bethlehem in Judah with his wife and two sons to stay in the territory of Moab for a while. ²The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife's name was Naomi. The names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah.*

They entered the fields of Moab and settled there. ³Naomi's husband Elimelech died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴Her sons took Moabite women as their wives: one was named Orpah and the second was named Ruth. After they lived in Moab about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two children and without her husband.

***6She and her daughters-in-law set out to return from the territory of Moab, because she had heard in Moab that the LORD had paid attention to his people's need by providing them food.
7She left the place where she had been living, accompanied by her two daughters-in-law, and traveled along the road leading back to the land of Judah.***

⁸Naomi said to them, “Each of you go back to your mother’s home. May the LORD show kindness to you as you have shown to the dead and to me.

⁹May the LORD grant each of you rest in the house of a new husband.” She kissed them, and they wept loudly.

¹⁰They said to her, “We insist on returning with you to your people.”

11 But Naomi replied, “Return home, my daughters. Why do you want to go with me? Am I able to have any more sons who could become your husbands? 12 Return home, my daughters. Go on, for I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me to have a husband tonight and to bear sons, 13 would you be willing to wait for

them to grow up? Would you restrain yourselves from remarrying? No, my daughters, my life is much too bitter for you to share, because the LORD's hand has turned against me.” ¹⁴*Again they wept loudly, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.* ¹⁵*Naomi said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. Follow your sister-in-law.”*

16 But Ruth replied:

***Don't plead with me to abandon you
or to return and not follow you.***

***For wherever you go, I will go,
and wherever you live, I will live;
your people will be my people,
and your God will be my God.***

***17 Where you die, I will die,
and there I will be buried.***

May the LORD punish me, and do so severely,

if anything but death separates you and me.

¹⁸When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped talking to her.

19The two of them traveled until they came to Bethlehem. ... 22bThey arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Exodus 13:21 (CSB) - *The LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to lead them on their way during the day and in a pillar of fire to give them light at night, so that they could travel day or night.*

Galatians 5:25 (CSB) - *If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.*

1. Acknowledge: this really hurts.

Ruth 1:9, 14 (CSB) – “May the LORD grant each of you rest in the house of a new husband.” She kissed them, and they wept loudly. ... ¹⁴Again they wept loudly, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

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5. What kind of schools will my kids attend?
6. Is there a good church nearby?

**2. In the midst of
change, find God.**

Vv. 16-17 – But Ruth replied: “Don’t plead with me to abandon you or to return and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. ¹⁷Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me, and do so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.”

3. Earn respect: work hard, be kind, respect others.

Ruth 2:3ff. (CSB) - *Boaz asked, “Whose young woman is this?”*

⁶The servant answered, “She is the young Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from the territory of Moab.

⁷She asked, ‘Will you let me gather fallen grain among the bundles behind the harvesters?’ She came and has been on her feet since early morning, except that she rested a little in the shelter.’ ...

11Boaz answered her, “Everything you have done for your mother-in-law since your husband’s death has been fully reported to me.”

**4. Look for the new
friends God's
prepared for you.**

Ruth 2:14ff. (CSB) – *At mealtime Boaz told her, “Come over here and have some bread and dip it in the vinegar sauce.” So she sat beside the harvesters, and he offered her roasted grain. She ate and was satisfied and had some left over.*

¹⁵*When she got up to gather grain, Boaz ordered his young men, “Let her even gather grain among the bundles,*

and don't humiliate her. ¹⁶Pull out some stalks from the bundles for her and leave them for her to gather." ...

¹⁹"The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz."

5. Remember: God has a fantastic plan, but you can't see it now.

Ruth 4:13–17 (CSB) - *Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. ... She gave birth to a son. ... ¹⁶Naomi took the child, placed him on her lap, and became his nanny. ¹⁷The neighbor women said, “A son has been born to Naomi,” and they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.*

Ecclesiastes 3:10–13 (CSB) - *I have seen the task that God has given the children of Adam to keep them occupied. ¹¹He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also put eternity in their hearts, but no one can discover the work God has done from beginning to end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and enjoy the good life. ¹³It is also the gift of God whenever anyone eats, drinks, and enjoys all his efforts.*

- God had a plan to use Ruth to bring into the world the greatest 2 kings Israel would ever have: David and Jesus! But she couldn't see it. So she just trusted God.

- **So enjoy this new life
God has given you!**