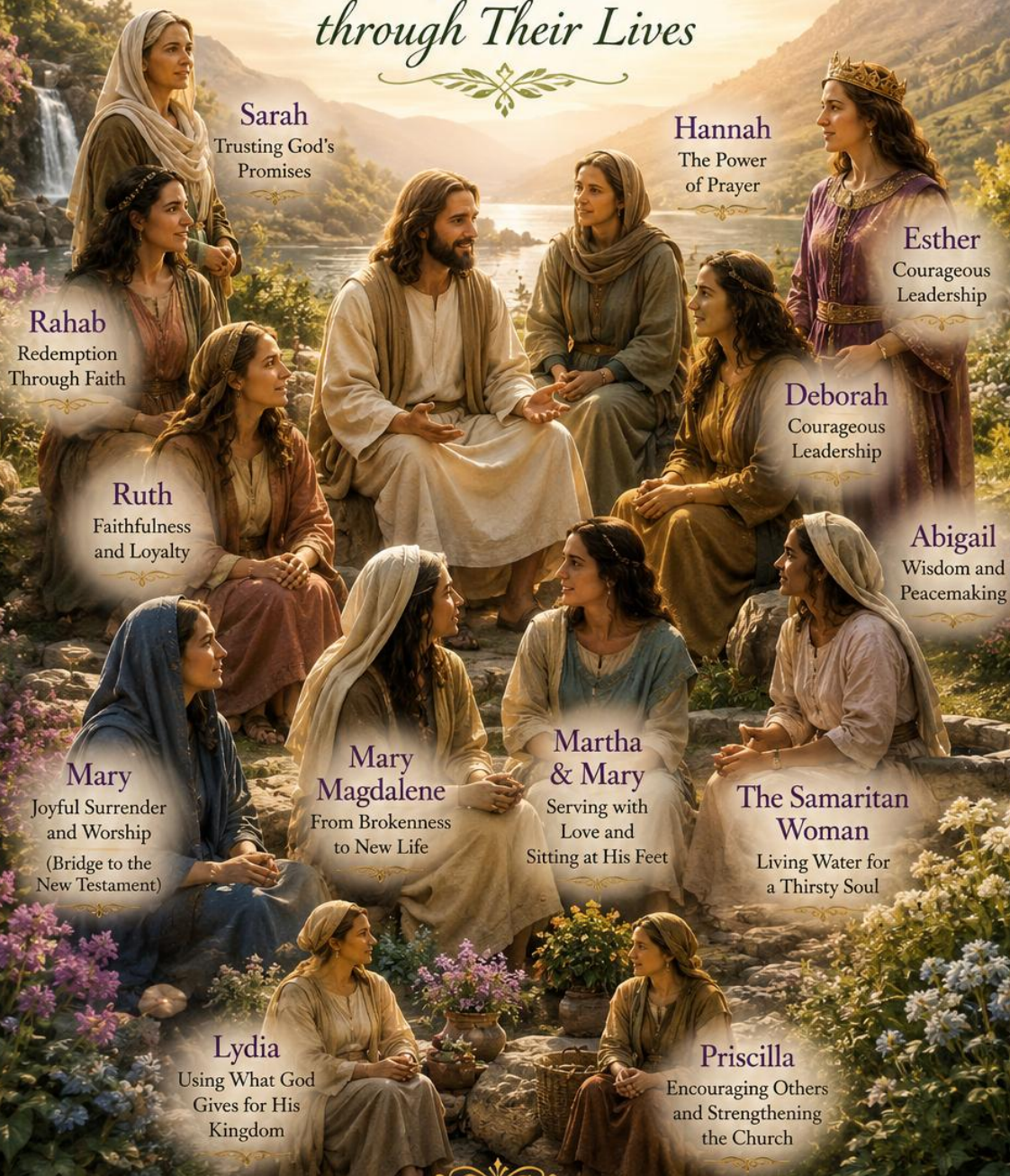


Faithful Women of SCRIPTURE

Discovering God's Character
through Their Lives



Sarah

Trusting God's Promises

Hannah

The Power of Prayer

Esther

Courageous Leadership

Rahab

Redemption Through Faith

Deborah

Courageous Leadership

Ruth

Faithfulness and Loyalty

Abigail

Wisdom and Peacemaking

Mary

Joyful Surrender and Worship
(Bridge to the New Testament)

Mary Magdalene

From Brokenness to New Life

Martha & Mary

Serving with Love and Sitting at His Feet

The Samaritan Woman

Living Water for a Thirsty Soul

Lydia

Using What God Gives for His Kingdom

Priscilla

Encouraging Others and Strengthening the Church

For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

ROMANS 15:4

FAITHFUL WOMEN OF SCRIPTURE

Discovering God's Character Through Their Lives

Introduction

Throughout my walk with Jesus Christ, God has continually drawn me back to one simple yet life-changing truth: the more we know God, the more we are transformed into His likeness. Throughout my doctoral studies, personal Bible study, seasons of healing, and years of ministry preparation, I have discovered that Scripture is not simply a collection of historical events or remarkable people. It is the unfolding story of God's **faithfulness** and His plan to redeem humanity through Jesus Christ.

This series was born out of that discovery. As I studied the lives of the **faithful** women God chose to include in His Word, I realized that each one reveals something beautiful about His character. Their stories are not recorded merely so we will admire their **faith, courage, wisdom, or devotion**. They are recorded so that we will know the God they trusted. Through their lives we see **His promises, His mercy, His provision, His wisdom, His power, His grace, and His unwavering faithfulness**. Every one of these women points us to Jesus Christ, who perfectly fulfills every promise and every truth revealed throughout Scripture.

These women lived in different generations and faced quite different circumstances. Some waited many years for God to fulfill **His promises**. Some carried painful pasts. Some endured seasons of grief and uncertainty. Others were called to lead courageously or to act wisely in tricky situations. Some experienced remarkable restoration after encountering Jesus. Yet despite their differences, they all share one common testimony: God is **faithful** to those who trust Him.

As you journey through these studies, you will meet **Sarah, Rahab, Ruth, Hannah, Deborah, Esther, Abigail, Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Martha and Mary of Bethany, the Samaritan woman, Lydia, and Priscilla**. Together, their stories reveal the beautiful progression of God's redemptive plan—from His **covenant promises** in the Old Testament to their fulfillment in Jesus Christ, and then to the lives of women whose hearts were transformed by the gospel and who **faithfully** served His Kingdom. Each woman reveals another facet of God's character and another invitation for us to become more like Christ.

My prayer is that you will not approach these studies as biographies to be admired from a distance. Instead, invite the Holy Spirit to walk beside you through each chapter. Allow Him to search your heart, strengthen your **faith**, correct your thinking, and reveal areas where He desires to continue His transforming work within you. Ask Him not only to teach you about these women but also to teach you about Himself.

As you read each study, remember that the goal is not simply to learn more about **faithful women**. The goal is to know God more deeply, to recognize how every story points to Jesus Christ, and to allow His truth to shape your own life. Every lesson builds upon the previous one until together they reveal the beautiful picture God has been painting throughout all of Scripture—a picture of **His faithful love** and His desire to transform ordinary people into devoted followers of Christ.

Questions to Prayerfully Consider Throughout This Series

As you read each woman's story, spend time reflecting on these questions before moving to the next study.

- What does this woman's life reveal about God's character?
- What qualities did God honor and develop in her life?

- Where do I see similar struggles, fears, or opportunities in my own life?
- What is God inviting me to trust Him with today?
- How does Jesus perfectly fulfill what I see in this woman's story?
- In what ways is the Holy Spirit calling me to become more like Christ?
- What practical step of faith or obedience is God asking me to take because of what I have learned?
- How can I reflect God's character more faithfully in my home, church, relationships, ministry, and community?

As you prayerfully answer these questions throughout the series, you will begin to see that God is not only telling their story—He is continuing to write yours.

A Prayer Before We Begin

Gracious Heavenly Father,

*With a heart full of gratitude, I thank You for preserving these women in Your Holy Word. Thank You for allowing their lives to become living testimonies of Your **faithfulness, mercy, wisdom, grace, and unfailing love**. Thank You for using ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary purposes so that every generation might know that You alone are God.*

Lord, I also thank You for the privilege You have given me to study Your Word, to grow through my own journey with Christ, and to write these reflections for others. Every insight, every lesson, and every page have been possible only because of Your guidance through the Holy Spirit. May this series never draw attention to the women themselves or to the one writing these pages, but always point every reader to Jesus Christ, our Savior, Redeemer, and Lord.

I pray for every person who opens this book. Prepare their heart before they read a single page. Give them a hunger to know You more deeply and a willingness to allow Your Word to transform every area of their life. May they discover Your faithfulness in seasons of waiting, Your grace in moments of failure, Your strength in times of weakness, Your wisdom in tough decisions, Your peace in uncertainty, and Your hope in every circumstance.

*Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see Jesus throughout every study. Help us not merely gain knowledge but experience **genuine spiritual transformation**. Form within us the character of Christ so that our lives become faithful reflections of Your love to a world that desperately needs You.*

May every lesson deepen our faith, strengthen our obedience, increase our love for Your Word, and equip us to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission until the day we stand before You.

We give You all the glory, all the honor, and all the praise, because You alone are worthy.

*In the precious and powerful name of Jesus Christ, **Amen***



FAITHFUL WOMEN OF SCRIPTURE

DISCOVERING GOD'S CHARACTER THROUGH THEIR LIVES

RUTH

*TRUSTING GOD ONE STEP AT A TIME
FINDING REDEMPTION THROUGH FAITHFULNESS AND SURRENDER*

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1:16–17 (NLT)

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!'"

THEME

God faithfully guides, provides for, and redeems those who trust Him one step at a time.

KEY TRUTH

Ruth's story reminds us that faith often requires trusting God without knowing where He is leading. As we faithfully obey Him one step at a time, He works behind the scenes through His perfect providence to accomplish His purposes in our lives. Our future is secure because it rests in the hands of our faithful Redeemer.

GOD'S CHARACTER REVEALED

- **God is Faithful**—He always keeps His promises and never abandons those who trust Him.
- **God is Sovereign**—He directs every circumstance according to His perfect will and timing.
- **God is Providential**—He works through ordinary events to accomplish His extraordinary purposes.
- **God is Compassionate**—He lovingly cares for the hurting, the vulnerable, and those who seek refuge in Him.
- **God is Redeemer**—He restores what has been lost and brings hope where there was once despair.
- **God is Gracious**—He welcomes all who come to Him in faith, regardless of their past or background.

CENTRAL LESSON

God calls us to trust Him even when we cannot see the path ahead, knowing that He is faithfully directing every step according to His perfect plan. Ruth's life teaches us that ordinary acts of faith and obedience become part of God's extraordinary work of redemption.

**RUTH'S STORY**

Ruth's story begins during a time of great loss and uncertainty. After the deaths of her husband, father-in-law, and brother-in-law, Ruth was left with her mother-in-law, Naomi. Although she was a Moabite and could have returned to her own people, Ruth chose instead to remain with Naomi and place her faith in the God of Israel. Her heartfelt declaration, "Where you go, I will go... your people will be my people and your God my God," revealed a life-changing commitment to both Naomi and the Lord.

When Ruth arrived in Bethlehem, she had no way of knowing how God would provide for her future. In humble obedience, she gathered leftover grain in the fields to care for herself and Naomi. What was an ordinary act of faithfulness was God quietly directing her steps. He led Ruth to the field of Boaz, a man of integrity and compassion who became her kinsman-redeemer. Through God's providence, Ruth and Boaz were married, and their son Obed became the grandfather of King David.

Ruth's life beautifully demonstrates God's plan of redemption. Though she was a Gentile outsider, God welcomed her into His covenant family and placed her in the lineage of Jesus Christ. Her story reminds us that God is always working behind the scenes, guiding those who trust Him, redeeming what has been lost, and accomplishing His purposes through simple acts of faith and obedience.

**Understanding Ruth's World**

To fully appreciate Ruth's story, it is important to understand the world in which she lived. The events of Ruth took place during the time of the judges, a period marked by spiritual decline, political instability, and repeated cycles of disobedience among the people of Israel. Although God had called Israel to be His covenant people, many had turned away from Him, and everyone "did what was right in their own eyes." Yet even in this dark period of history, God was quietly working through the lives of ordinary people to accomplish His redemptive plan.

Ruth was a Moabite; a people often viewed with suspicion because of their long history of conflict with Israel and their worship of false gods. As a foreign widow living in Bethlehem, Ruth faced significant challenges. She had no husband to provide for her, no

inheritance, and no social standing. Widows were among the most vulnerable members of society, often depending on the kindness of others and God's provision through His Law, which allowed the poor to gather grain left behind during the harvest.

God's Law also provided the role of the **kinsman-redeemer**, a close relative who could redeem family property, care for needy relatives, and preserve the family line. Boaz willingly fulfilled this role, becoming a beautiful picture of God's redeeming love. Understanding these customs helps us see that Ruth's story is much more than a love story. It is a powerful account of God's providence, faithfulness, and redemption, pointing us to Jesus Christ, our perfect Redeemer, who came to rescue all who place their faith in Him.



What Ruth's Life Reveals About God

Ruth's life provides a beautiful picture of God's character and His unwavering faithfulness toward those who place their trust in Him. Although the book of Ruth contains no dramatic miracles or audible messages from God, His presence is evident on every page. Through ordinary circumstances and faithful obedience, God quietly accomplished His extraordinary plan of redemption. Ruth's story reminds us that even when God seems silent, He is never absent. He is continually working behind the scenes for the good of His people and for the fulfillment of His perfect purposes.

One of the greatest truths revealed through Ruth's life is that **God is faithful**. Ruth left everything she had ever known—her homeland, her family, and her future—to follow the God of Israel. She had no guarantee of what awaited her in Bethlehem, yet God faithfully provided for her every step of the way. He met her physical needs through the kindness of Boaz, cared for Naomi through Ruth's devotion, and blessed Ruth beyond anything she could have imagined. God's faithfulness did not mean that Ruth avoided hardship, but it did mean that she was never abandoned. In the same way, God remains faithful to us, even when our future is uncertain.

Ruth's story also reveals that **God is sovereign and providential**. What was simple coincidences were divine appointments orchestrated by God's hand. Ruth "happened" to glean in the field of Boaz, but Scripture shows us that God's providence was directing every step. The Lord was arranging circumstances long before Ruth could understand His plan. This reminds us that God is actively involved in our lives, guiding our decisions, opening, and closing doors, and accomplishing His purposes even when we cannot see what He is doing. Nothing in our lives is outside of His loving care.

Another beautiful truth is that **God is gracious and welcomes all who come to Him by faith**. Ruth was a Moabite, a Gentile outsider with no claim to the covenant promises given to Israel. Yet because she placed her faith in the one true God, she was welcomed

into His family and became part of His redemptive plan. Her inclusion in the genealogy of Jesus Christ demonstrates that God's salvation has always been available to people from every nation who trust in Him. His grace is not limited by ethnicity, social status, or past circumstances. God delights in receiving all who come to Him with humble and believing hearts.

Ruth's life also reveals that **God is our Redeemer**. Through Boaz, God provided a living illustration of redemption. As Ruth's kinsman-redeemer, Boaz willingly paid the price to secure her future, restore her family, and provide hope where there had been despair. This points us directly to Jesus Christ, our ultimate Redeemer, who willingly gave His life to redeem us from sin and bring us into God's family. Just as Boaz restored Ruth's future, Jesus restores our relationship with God and gives us the hope of eternal life.

Finally, Ruth teaches us that **God honors humble faithfulness**. Ruth was not seeking recognition or greatness. She simply chose to love, serve, work diligently, and trust God one day at a time. The Lord used her ordinary acts of obedience to accomplish extraordinary purposes that reached far beyond her lifetime. Her story reminds us that God often does His greatest work through people who faithfully obey Him in the ordinary moments of life. When we surrender our lives to Him and trust Him with each step, He can accomplish far more than we could ever imagine.

Ruth's life reveals a God who is faithful, sovereign, gracious, compassionate, and redeeming. He sees those who trust Him, lovingly directs their paths, and weaves every season of life into His perfect plan. Though we may not always understand His ways, we can confidently rest in the assurance that the same God who guided Ruth continues to guide His children today. His faithfulness never changes, His grace never fails, and His plan of redemption continues through all who place their faith in Jesus Christ.



Lessons We Learn from Ruth's Life

Ruth's life teaches us that following God often begins with a single step of faith. She did not know what the future held when she chose to leave her homeland and follow Naomi to Bethlehem, yet she trusted the Lord with her unknown future. Her example reminds us that God rarely reveals His entire plan at once. Instead, He asks us to trust Him daily, believing that He is faithfully directing our steps.

Ruth also demonstrates the beauty of humility, loyalty, and perseverance. She faithfully cared for Naomi, worked diligently to provide for their needs, and remained obedient even when life was difficult. Rather than allowing hardship to make her bitter, Ruth chose faithfulness. Her life reminds us that God often works through ordinary acts of obedience to accomplish extraordinary purposes.

Another important lesson is that God's providence is always at work, even when we cannot see it. What seemed like ordinary events—gleaning in a field and meeting Boaz—were part of God's perfect plan of redemption. This encourages us to trust that God is working behind the scenes in our own lives, using every circumstance for His glory and our good.

Finally, Ruth points us to the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Just as Boaz redeemed Ruth and gave her a new future, Jesus is our perfect Redeemer who rescues us from sin and welcomes us into God's family. Ruth's story reminds us that no one is beyond God's grace and that those who place their faith in Him can rest in His faithful love, confident that He is leading them one step at a time according to His perfect plan.



Ruth's Life and My Journey

As I have studied Ruth's life, I have often seen my own journey reflected in hers. Like Ruth, I have experienced seasons of loss, uncertainty, and stepping into the unknown without knowing what the future would hold. After the death of my husband, life changed in ways I never expected. There were many questions, many difficult days, and many moments when I simply had to trust God with the next step because I could not see the road ahead. Looking back, I can now see that God was faithfully leading me even when I could not recognize His hand.

Over the past several years, the Lord has opened doors I never imagined. He led me back to school to complete my master's degree and then called me to pursue my Doctor of Christian Leadership degree. He moved me from Texas to Colorado, surrounded me with family who have encouraged and supported me, and has continued preparing me for the ministry He placed on my heart. Like Ruth, I did not know where each step of obedience would lead, but I have learned that God never asks us to know the entire journey. He simply asks us to trust Him enough to take the next step.

Ruth has also reminded me that God often accomplishes His greatest work through ordinary faithfulness. Many of the things God has asked me to do have not seemed extraordinary studying His Word, writing these Bible studies, growing through my education, spending time in prayer, and allowing Him to heal the broken places in my life. Yet I have come to realize that these ordinary acts of obedience are part of His preparation for the ministry He has called me to fulfill.

The greatest lesson Ruth has taught me is that God's providence is usually understood in hindsight. There were many seasons when I questioned why certain doors closed and others opened, but now I can clearly see His loving hand guiding every step. Just as God faithfully led Ruth from uncertainty to redemption, He has faithfully led me through every season of my life. **Because of His faithfulness in the**

past, I can trust Him with my future, knowing that He will continue to guide my steps until the work He has begun in me is complete.



Looking to Jesus

While Ruth's story is inspiring, its greatest purpose is to point us to Jesus Christ. Every major event in her life directs our attention to God's unfolding plan of redemption, a plan that would be fulfilled through His Son. Ruth did not realize that her simple acts of faith and obedience would become part of a much greater story—one that would lead to the birth of the Savior of the world. Through her life, we see that God has always been working to bring people from every nation into His family through faith.

One of the clearest pictures of Jesus in the book of Ruth is found in Boaz, the kinsman-redeemer. According to God's Law, a kinsman-redeemer was a close relative who was willing and able to redeem a family member by paying the necessary price to restore what had been lost. Boaz willingly redeemed Ruth, providing her with security, hope, and a new future. In the same way, Jesus became our perfect Redeemer. Though we were separated from God because of sin, Jesus willingly paid the price we could never pay through His death on the cross. Through His resurrection, He offers forgiveness, new life, and eternal hope to everyone who places their faith in Him.

Ruth's story also reminds us that God's invitation to salvation is for everyone. Ruth was a Moabite, a Gentile outsider, yet she was welcomed into God's covenant family because of her faith. Her inclusion in the genealogy of Jesus demonstrates that God's plan of salvation has always extended beyond the nation of Israel. Jesus came to seek and save people from every tribe, language, and nation. No one is too far from God's grace, and no past is beyond His power to redeem.

Like Ruth, we are called to leave behind our old way of life and follow the Lord in faith. We may not know where He is leading, but we can trust the One who has already gone before us. Jesus calls His followers to surrender their lives to Him, trusting that His plans are always better than our own. As we walk with Him day by day, He faithfully directs our steps, provides what we need, and transforms us into His likeness.

Ruth's journey began with loss but ended with redemption, hope, and joy. Our journey follows the same pattern when we place our faith in Christ. Jesus takes what is broken and makes it whole. He restores what sin has damaged, gives purpose to our suffering, and promises that one day we will share in the fullness of His eternal kingdom. As we look to Jesus, we find our true Redeemer, our faithful Shepherd, and our unfailing hope. The same Savior who lovingly guided Ruth continues to lead each of us today, inviting us to trust Him one step at a time until we see Him face to face.



Conclusion

Ruth's story is far more than the account of a faithful woman who overcame difficult circumstances. It is the story of a faithful God who lovingly guides, provides for, and redeems those who place their trust in Him. Through seasons of loss, uncertainty, and waiting, God never abandoned Ruth. Instead, He quietly worked behind the scenes, directing every step according to His perfect plan. Her life reminds us that even when we cannot see what God is doing, He is always at work for our good and for His glory.

As I have reflected on Ruth's journey, I have been reminded that God rarely reveals the entire path before asking us to take the first step. He simply calls us to trust Him, remain faithful, and follow where He leads. Looking back over my own life, I can clearly see His hand guiding me through times of grief, healing, education, and preparation for the ministry He has called me to. Every season, both joyful and difficult, has become part of His loving work of shaping me into the person He desires me to be.

You find yourself facing an uncertain future or wondering where God is leading you. If so, I pray Ruth's story encourages you to place your confidence not in your circumstances but in the character of God. The Lord who faithfully led Ruth is the same Lord who walks beside you today. He knows the path ahead, He promises to never leave you, and He will faithfully complete the work He has begun in your life. As you continue to trust Him one step at a time, you will discover, just as Ruth did, that His plans are always greater than anything you could have imagined.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the beautiful example of Ruth and for the many lessons her life continues to teach us today. Thank You for showing us that You are faithful in every season, even when we cannot see what lies ahead. Thank You for reminding us that Your plans are always good, Your timing is always perfect, and Your love never fails. Through Ruth's story, we see that You are a God who guides, provides, restores, and redeems all who place their trust in You.

Lord, thank You for the countless ways You faithfully lead our lives, even when we are unaware of Your work. Thank You for walking beside us through seasons of joy and sorrow, through times of waiting and times of blessing. Thank You for opening doors according to Your perfect will and for closing the ones that would lead us away from Your best. Help us to trust You more completely each day, knowing that every step we take is safely held in Your loving hands.

Most of all, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our perfect Redeemer. Thank You that through His death and resurrection we have forgiveness, new life, and the hope of eternity with You. Thank You that no one is beyond Your grace and that all who come to You by faith are welcomed into Your family.

May Ruth's example inspires us to walk humbly with You, remain faithful in the ordinary moments of life, and trust You with every unknown tomorrow. Strengthen our faith, deepen our love for You, and help us live each day in a way that brings honor and glory to Your name.

We praise You because You are always faithful. We thank You because You are always good. We trust You because You are our loving Father, our faithful Guide, and our eternal Redeemer.

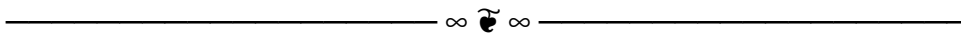
In the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.



Grow Deeper

Ruth's story reminds us that a life of faith is built one step at a time. She did not know where God was leading her, yet she chose to trust Him with each decision, believing He would provide what she needed along the way. Her journey encourages us to place our confidence not in what we can see, but in the God who faithfully directs our steps and accomplishes His purposes in His perfect timing.

As you spend time with the Lord, ask Him to reveal areas where He is calling you to trust Him more deeply. Reflect on His faithfulness throughout your own life and consider how He has quietly worked behind the scenes, even during seasons of uncertainty. Allow Ruth's example to strengthen your faith as you continue walking with Jesus, knowing that the God who faithfully guided her will faithfully guide you every step of your journey.



Reflection Questions

Take a few quiet moments to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart. As you reflect on Ruth's journey, consider how God may be calling you to trust Him more deeply and follow Him more faithfully one step at a time.

1. Where is God asking me to trust Him, even though I cannot see the outcome?
2. Am I allowing fear or uncertainty to keep me from following God's leading?
3. How have I seen God's faithfulness in my life when I look back over my journey?

4. Is there something God is asking me to leave behind to follow Him more completely?
5. What ordinary act of obedience is God calling me to faithfully pursue today?
6. How has God provided for me during seasons when I felt uncertain or overwhelmed?
7. In what ways can I become more faithful in serving others with humility and love?
8. How does Ruth's story strengthen my confidence in God's providence and perfect timing?
9. What does Jesus, my Redeemer, mean to me personally, and how does that change the way I live?
10. What one step of faith will I take this week as I continue trusting God with my future?



Digging Deeper

As you study the life of Ruth, look beyond the events of her story and focus on what they reveal about the character of God. Notice His faithfulness in times of uncertainty, His providence in the ordinary moments of life, and His redeeming love through Boaz, which points us to Jesus Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how Ruth's journey applies to your own walk with the Lord and how God is inviting you to trust Him more fully, obey Him more faithfully, and rest in His perfect plan one step at a time.

Primary Scripture

Ruth 1:16–17 (NLT)

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!'"

Additional Passages for Study

Study the following passages to gain a deeper understanding of Ruth's faith, God's providence, and His plan of redemption. As you read each passage, ask the Lord to reveal what it teaches you about His character, how it points to Jesus Christ, and how you can apply these truths to your own walk with Him.

- **Ruth 1:1–22** — Discover Ruth's decision to leave everything behind and trust the God of Israel despite an uncertain future.

- **Ruth 2:1–23** — See how God faithfully provides for Ruth and Naomi through His providence and the kindness of Boaz.
- **Ruth 3:1–18** — Observe Ruth's humility, obedience, and faith as she places her future in God's hands.
- **Ruth 4:1–22** — Witness God's redemption through Boaz and Ruth's place in His eternal plan leading to King David.
- **Matthew 1:1–16** — See how God honored Ruth by including her in the genealogy of Jesus Christ.
- **Romans 8:28–30** — Be encouraged that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him.
- **Galatians 3:26–29** — Learn that through faith in Christ, all believers become part of God's family regardless of their background.
- **Hebrews 11:6** — Be reminded that faith is essential to pleasing God and walking with Him.
- **James 2:14–26** — See how genuine faith is demonstrated through faithful obedience, just as Ruth lived out her faith.
- **Ephesians 2:11–22** — Rejoice that through Jesus Christ, those who were once far away have been brought near and made part of God's household.

This list follows the same pattern you established in **Sarah** and **Rahab**—beginning with the woman's life in the Old Testament and ending with New Testament passages that reveal how her story points to Christ and applies to believers today.

Word Study

Spend time studying these biblical words and how they appear throughout Scripture.

- Trust
- Faithfulness
- Redeemer
- Redemption
- Providence
- Steadfast Love
- Restoration

Ask Yourself

- Am I trusting God with my future, even when I cannot see where He is leading?
- Where have I seen God's providence and faithfulness at work in my life when I look back?
- What is the next step of faith God is asking me to take today?

Looking for Jesus

As you study Ruth's life, look beyond her story and see the greater story of Jesus Christ. Boaz, the kinsman-redeemer, points us to Jesus, our perfect Redeemer, who willingly paid the price to rescue us from sin and restore our relationship with God. Ruth, a Gentile who was welcomed into God's covenant family, reminds us that Christ came to offer salvation to people from every nation who place their faith in Him. Her place in the genealogy of Jesus reveals that God's plan of redemption was unfolding long before His birth, and her life encourages us to trust the same faithful Savior who continues to guide, redeem, and transform all who follow Him.



Walking with Ruth to Jesus

Ruth's journey is a beautiful reminder that following God is often a journey of faith rather than certainty. She did not know where the road would lead when she left Moab with Naomi. She simply trusted the God of Israel and took one faithful step after another. Along the way, God provided for her needs, surrounded her with His care, redeemed her future, and made her part of His eternal plan. Her story teaches us that God is always working, even when we cannot see His hand.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to walk the same way. Jesus does not promise that every path will be easy or free from hardship, but He does promise that He will never leave us or forsake us. Like Ruth, we are invited to trust Him with our future, surrender our plans to His will, and believe that His ways are always better than our own. Every step of obedience becomes an opportunity to experience His faithfulness more deeply.

Ruth also reminds us that our lives can have an eternal impact when we remain faithful to God. She could never have imagined that her story would become part of the lineage of the Messiah. In the same way, we may never fully understand how God is using our obedience to influence the lives of others or accomplish His kingdom purposes. Our responsibility is not to know the outcome but to faithfully follow the One who does.

Today, Jesus invites each of us to walk with Him just as Ruth walked by faith. Whether you are facing loss, uncertainty, a new beginning, or simply the challenges of everyday life, you can trust that He is leading you with wisdom, love, and perfect purpose. As you continue your journey with Christ, may Ruth's example encourage you to take the next step in faith, knowing that your Redeemer walks beside you. The same God who faithfully guided Ruth is faithfully guiding you, and one day you will look back and see that every step was held securely in His loving hands.



Key Verse to Remember

Ruth 1:16-17 (NLT)

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!'"

Take This Truth with You

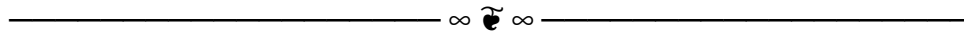
Throughout this week, return to this verse whenever you face uncertainty, discouragement, or a season of waiting. Let these words remind you that God's power is never limited by your circumstances, His promises are never forgotten, and His timing is always perfect.

When you are tempted to doubt, remember Sarah.

When you grow weary of waiting, remember God's faithfulness.

When life seems impossible, remember that nothing is too hard for the Lord.

Allow this verse to become more than words on a page. Pray for it. Meditate on it. Memorize it. Let it strengthen your faith and remind you that the God who fulfilled His promise to Sarah is still faithfully working in your life today.

**Continue the Journey**

Thank you for taking the time to study the life of Ruth. Her story reminds us that God faithfully leads those who trust Him, even when they cannot see the road ahead. As you continue this series, you will discover that each woman reveals another beautiful aspect of God's character and points us more deeply toward Jesus Christ. Together, these studies form a journey of faith, courage, surrender, wisdom, worship, and faithful discipleship.

As you continue reading, ask the Lord to transform not only your understanding of these women but also your own heart. Allow their examples to strengthen your faith, deepen your trust, and encourage you to walk more closely with Jesus each day.

Continue Your Journey Through Faithful Women of Scripture

1. **Sarah** — *Trusting God's Promises*
2. **Rahab** — *Trusting God Beyond Your Past*
3. **Ruth** — *Trusting God One Step at a Time*
4. **Hannah** — *Surrendering Your Heart to God*
5. **Deborah** — *Courageous Leadership and Obedient Faith*
6. **Abigail** — *Wisdom, Humility, and Peacemaking*
7. **Mary, the Mother of Jesus** — *Humble Surrender to God's Will*
8. **Mary Magdalene** — *Grace, Forgiveness, and Devoted Discipleship*

9. **Martha and Mary of Bethany** — *Choosing What Matters Most*
10. **The Samaritan Woman** — *Living Water for a Thirsty Soul*
11. **Lydia** — *An Open Heart and a Willing Spirit*
12. **Priscilla** — *Growing Together in Ministry*
13. **Faithful Women of Scripture** — *Walking Forward in Faith: Following Their Example and Living for Christ*

As you complete this journey through the lives of these faithful women, my prayer is that you will not simply admire their stories but allow God to shape your own. The same Lord who guided Sarah, redeemed Rahab, led Ruth, and worked through each of these women is faithfully at work in your life today. Trust Him with each step, follow Him with your whole heart, and allow Him to transform you into the person He has created you to be—for His glory and for the advancement of His Kingdom.