

# "On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

# RUTH 1

## Ruth 1

Ruth one is the beginning of one of the greatest love stories ever told. Please enjoy the book of Ruth for what it is. The great story of God in Redemption is woven throughout the Bible, but it is clearly seen in Ruth. The book of Ruth is strategically located between the Book of Judges and the books of Samuel as it is a bridge to introduce us to the man along with Abraham, who is the most important person in the salvation history of God and the history of the Jewish nation, King David, Son of Jesse, of Bethlehem of the Tribe of Judah. The story begins with Elimelech and Naomi, a husband and wife from Bethlehem who moved with their two single sons across the rift valley to the Eastern Ridge of the Promised Land, to the land of Moab, specifically to the city of Medeba. There the sons married Moabite women and then both sons died. By their names we learn they were likely unhealthy from birth. Elimelech, his name means, God is my king, husband of Naomi died as well. After a time, Naomi became homesick for her homeland and the drought that had brought her husband and sons to the place she lived had long since gone. She decided to go back to Bethlehem. Her two daughters-in-law wanted to go with her, she asked them

not to do so, but Ruth insisted, and Naomi finally gave in for her to accompany her after one of the most beautiful entreaties recorded in history.

***"Ruth said: 'Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me.'" (Ruth 1:16-17)***

The two went back to Bethlehem, but on the way back Naomi changed her name from Naomi, "Pleasant one," to Marah, "Bitter." The loss of a husband and two sons hand made her bitter at God and bitter at the world. The story doesn't end here.

### Prayer and Action Steps

*Naomi is a picture of a life that didn't turn out as planned, but in the end was better! God is able to take "Bitter" and make it "Better". The difference in the two words and attitudes is the letter "I" May God help us.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture \_\_\_\_\_

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

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What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

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Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

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Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

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Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

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Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?

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