### Ruth

## Chapter 3

1Well, while she was staying there with her mother-in-law, NaOmi said to her:  
  
 ‘My daughter,  
  
 ‘How else can I give you some rest and allow good things to happen to you?  
  
 2‘BoAz, the one whose young women you’re working among, is a close relative... And tonight he will be threshing barley in his barn. 3So... Take a bath, [rub your body] with [fragrant] oils and dress up – then go to his barn.  
  
 ‘However, you must not reveal yourself to him until after he’s finished eating and drinking. 4But then, when you see that he’s fallen asleep, go uncover his feet and lie down there at his feet and go to sleep!  
  
 ‘Thereafter, he will tell you what to do.’  
  
5And Ruth said:  
  
 ‘I’ll do whatever you say.’  
  
  
6So she went down to the barn and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed... 7[She saw] BoAz eating and drinking until his heart was quite satisfied, and then he went to sleep in the hay.  
  
So Ruth crept up quietly and uncovered his feet, then she got down to go to sleep. 8However, this woke BoAz – and when he saw the woman lying at his feet, 9he asked:  
  
 ‘Who are you?’  
  
And she replied:  
  
 ‘I’m Ruth, your servant girl... Wrap me in your blanket, for you’re my relative.’  
  
10So BoAz said:  
  
 ‘May Jehovah God bless you for your goodness and mercy, my daughter, because you’ve chosen the last over the first!  
  
 ‘You could have looked for a younger man, whether rich or poor.  
  
 11‘But daughter; don’t be afraid, for I’ll do whatever you ask, since my whole tribe knows what a mighty woman you are.  
  
12However, there’s someone who’s a closer relative than me. 13You may spend the rest of the night here, but in the morning we’ll go and find out if he’s willing to do right by you, since he is your closest relative...  
  
 ‘Now, as Jehovah is living, you may just go to sleep until the morning.’  
  
14So [Ruth] went back to sleep at his feet and she stayed there until the next morning.  
  
  
And when she awoke (while [it was still too dark] to be seen), BoAz said:  
  
 ‘Don’t tell anyone that a woman spent the night in my barn.’  
  
15Then he said to her:  
  
 ‘Now, bring me the apron that you wore.’  
  
So she held it out, and he poured 6 quarts (5.7l) of barley into it for her; and thereafter, she returned to the city.  
  
  
16Well, when she got back, her mother-in-law asked:  
  
 ‘What happened, my daughter?’  
  
And she told her everything that the man had done, saying:  
  
 ‘He also gave me 6 quarts (5.7l) of barley, 17and he told me to carry this to my mother-in-law.’  
  
18Then [NaOmi] said:  
  
 ‘Now, let’s just sit here and wait, my daughter, to see how this thing works out. For the man won’t be satisfied until he’s finished everything that has to be done.’