

45 Ruth Makes the Right Choice

Chapter Ruth 1–4

Today's Lesson:



1. To understand that we must choose the Word of God and not the thought of man.
2. To understand that God always prepares good things for those who have made the right choice.

Open Your Heart



Today on the Lord's day, Sarah is choosing what to wear to church from her closet. There are clothes that she usually likes to wear, but she is contemplating because she remembered what she learned about how Christians ought to dress. The reason is that among the clothes she has, the ones she likes are too short or eye-catching. She learned that, as Christians, our outfit must testify of Christ and thinks that her clothes would turn the eyes of others away from the Lord to herself. On the other hand, not only her fellow small group friends but also older sisters and even mothers group sisters wear those kinds of clothes to church from time to time, so she thinks it would be okay to wear them.

Should she wear the clothes that she likes? Or should she wear more appropriate clothes? If you were Sarah, what choice would you make?



Understanding Today's Lesson

God can even lift those in the valley of utmost darkness and despair to the peak of hope through His almighty power and love. The book of Ruth contains the story of the restoration of a household in despair leading to the hope of the people of Israel through Ruth's choice of faith and great love towards her mother-in-law.

The book of Ruth begins with the story of the misfortune that struck the household of Naomi. As Israel was struck with a famine, Naomi and her husband Elimelech took their two sons and left their home in Bethlehem to the gentile land of Moab. They moved from the promised land to a gentile land for prosperity, but the results were tragic. Her husband died, and both her sons married Moabites but died without bearing any children. Naomi fell into great despair that she could not get out of. Naomi, who was only left with her two gentile daughters-in-law, determined to return to Bethlehem and told her daughters-in-law to return to their respective hometowns as well. Her first daughter-in-law gladly left, but her second daughter-in-law was a woman of faith who saw the God that Naomi believed in. That is why Ruth said, "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." Ruth did not leave Naomi who had nothing and entered Bethlehem in the land of Israel that rejects gentiles.

How do you think the faith and love of Ruth was rewarded?

Notes:



Memorizing Bible Verses

But 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.

(Ruth 1:16)



Meditate

On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse or write a short summary of the verse. Also, write down things you have felt about the verse, or other verses that it has reminded you of.

(Ruth 1:1–5)

(Ruth 2:8–16)

(Ruth 4:13–17)

2. Think deeply, and write about the things Naomi's family lost as they moved away from the promised land into the gentile land and the things they gained when they returned to Bethlehem.



Changing

Directions

1. When you faced the situations below, what choices did you make? And what were the results?

- When I eat with school friends,
will I pray before eating or not?
- During my friend's birthday party,
will I go to the karaoke room
together or turn back?
- On Sunday morning when my
classmates go to study,
will I go to church or not?

2. The book of Ruth starts with disobedience leading to death and ends with obedience leading to marriage and new life. Also, the book of Romans says, "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." Think about and write down the things that you must follow according to the Word of God although that may be a loss to you physically.



Applying

The Word to My Life

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
(James 2:26)

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1.)

2.)

3.)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

To Live According to the Word

We have been called to liberty. However, let us pray that we can live a life choosing not to use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, and instead to serve one another through love.

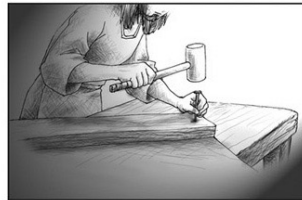


Our Story

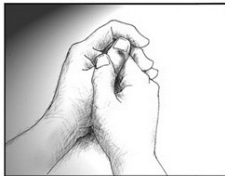
Nearby Pain



Jesus was born to a carpenter.
There was always wood, nails, and a hammer by His side.



He probably accidentally hurt himself
from time to time using them.



The tools used for Jesus' judgment were
also wood, nails, and a hammer. Jesus
who foreknew the pain of judgment...
Maybe He tried pressing a thick nail into
His own hands...



The things that are close to me...At
times those things may be great pain to
be and suppress me.

My friends...
Studies...
School life...

However, because I know that these
things don't only end in pain and that the
Lord who knows my pain better than
anyone else is with me, I am able to
endure with thanksgiving and joy.

**Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is with those who uphold
my life. (Psalm 54:4)**

Choosing the Most Important Matter

The following is an excerpt from a book named "What Suffering Means" written by Ayako Miura, a Japanese Christian writer.

"The second best thing in life blocks the first."

Like the people who did not go to the king's feast even though they were invited in Luke 14, there are many times we miss the best thing because of the second best thing. If we think about the reasons why we miss out on worship, we often say, "because I had guests over", "because I needed to spend time with my children", "because I had an appointment with my friends". That always led to the second best thing blocking the first. However, this isn't only about missing out on church. Every day in our life we always stand before making a choice. The question is whether or not we choose the first and most important matter. Honestly, we tend to choose what we like, what we want to do, and what's better for your social life. Because of this, there are many times we forsake the most important matter.





Wednesday

Sermon

Date. | |

Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage:



Sunday

Sermon

Date.

|

|

Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage: