Roots Before Harvest

BUILD SLOWLY. LIVE FAITHFULLY. REAP WHAT ONLY GOD CAN GROW.



Hi friend,

I don't know about you- but sometimes I feel like I'm trying to outrace God to the finish line of a season, a project, heartbreak and pain. I'm learning- albeit it slowly that life with God isn't about rushing ahead to quick results. It's about steady trust, faithful obedience, and waiting for the harvest He alone can bring. The story of Ruth reminds us that lasting fruit doesn't grow overnight—it grows when we put down roots in God's promises.

Ruth knew loss, uncertainty, and the weight of starting over. Yet through her loyalty, courage, and faith, she discovered God's redeeming hand at work in the everyday details of her life. Her journey teaches us that God weaves beauty out of brokenness, turns famine into fullness, and grows redemption from even the most barren soil.

This 8-week devotional is an invitation to walk slowly through Ruth's story, planting truth in your heart one week at a time. Each reading will point you to a God who provides, redeems, and calls you to live faithfully while you wait for His harvest.

So take a breath. Settle your heart. Let's dig deep into God's Word together —trusting that as we build slowly and live faithfully, He will reap a harvest in us that only He can grow.

Kati Wood

01

Session 1

PREPARING THE SOIL

Ruth's story begins with famine, loss, and barren ground. God often does His best work in the soil of our deepest need.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where in your life do you feel barren or empty right now?

How have you seen God begin new work in the middle of hard seasons?

01 Session 1

PREPARING THE SOIL

"In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land..."
-Ruth 1:1

What "soil" is He asking you to prepare for His planting?

Lord, meet me in the barren places of my life. Break up the hard soil of my heart and prepare it for Your planting.

02 Session 2

PLANTING IN LOYALTY

Ruth's loyalty to Naomi becomes the seed that changes her story. Faithfulness is often the first planting of a future harvest.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What does loyalty to God and others look like in your current season?

How has a past act of faithfulness produced unexpected fruit in your life?

02 Session 2

PLANTING IN LOYALTY

"Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay..."
-Ruth 1:16

What step of obedience feels like planting a seed of trust today?

Father, help me plant seeds of loyalty and obedience. Teach me to cling to You and to love faithfully like Ruth did.

03 Session 3

TENDING IN OBEDIENCE

Ruth works humbly in the fields, trusting that God's provision often comes through ordinary obedience.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How do you see God's provision in the ordinary, daily parts of your life?

Where is He asking you to tend faithfully, even when the results feel small?

03 Session 3

TENDING IN OBEDIENCE

"Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain..."
-Ruth 2:2

How can you practice gratitude for "field work" seasons?

God, help me tend to the work before me with humility. Open my eyes to see Your provision in ordinary places.

04 Session 4

WAITING FOR THE RIGHT SEASON

On the threshing floor, Ruth shows courage but also patience—trusting God's timing.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where are you being asked to wait instead of rush?

How do you usually respond to God's "not yet"?

04 Session 4

WAITING FOR THE RIGHT SEASON

"Wait, my daughter, until you find out what happens..."
-Ruth 3:18

What practices help you stay rooted in trust while you wait?

Lord, give me patience to wait for Your timing. Teach me to trust that Your seasons are always good.

05

Session 5

CLAIMING REDEMPTION

Boaz steps forward as redeemer, securing Ruth's future and displaying God's faithful love.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What part of your life needs the reminder that Jesus has already redeemed you?

How does it feel to know God's redemption is permanent and complete?

05

Session 5

CLAIMING REDEMPTION

"Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property..."
-Ruth 4:9

What would it look like to live more boldly in the security of His redemption?

Jesus, thank You for redeeming me completely. Help me live boldly in the freedom You've secured.

06

Session 6

REAPING THE JOY

The story shifts from sorrow to joy as Ruth becomes a wife and mother, and Naomi's arms are filled again.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where have you seen God turn mourning into joy in your own story?

What current hardship could you begin to trust Him to redeem?

06

Session 6

REAPING THE JOY

"Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer."
-Ruth 4:14

How can you celebrate the small joys He has already given you?

Faithful God, turn my mourning into joy. Remind me that You never leave me without hope or redemption.

07 Session 7

SOWING INTO THE FUTURE

Ruth's faithfulness places her in the lineage of King David —and Jesus. God's harvest is generational.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How does it change your perspective to know your faith impacts future generations?

What seeds of faith do you want to plant for others?

07

Session 7

SOWING INTO THE FUTURE

"Salmon the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed..."
-Ruth 4:21

Who in your life has sown spiritual seeds you're now harvesting?

Lord, help me plant seeds of faith that will grow beyond my lifetime. Use my story to point to Yours.

08 Session 8

LIVING IN THE HARVEST

Ruth's story ends in fruitfulness, but her life was marked by daily faithfulness first. Redeemed women live as sowers of hope.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How has Ruth's journey challenged or encouraged you personally?

What practices will help you stay rooted in God beyond this study?

08 Session 8

LIVING IN THE HARVEST

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her."
-Luke 1:45

How can your life bear fruit that points others to Jesus?

Redeemer, help me live as one rooted in Your promises. May my life bear fruit that blesses others and glorifies You.

Commissioning from

KATI WOOD

Sisters, as we close this journey through Ruth's story, let her footsteps echo into your own. Ruth chose the narrow road to Bethlehem — a road of obedience, faithfulness, and quiet bravery.

She could not have known all that God had in store, but her decision to stay, to cling, and to trust changed the trajectory of her life and rippled into eternity.

Now it is your turn. You may not see the whole harvest yet, but you can plant seeds of faith through your obedience today. You may not know what the future holds, but you can cling to the God who redeems. You may feel small or unseen, but you can step forward with the bravery of a daughter who knows her Redeemer walks beside her.

So go, rooted in His promises. Build slowly, live faithfully, and walk bravely into whatever Bethlehem road God has set before you. And as you go, trust this: the God who redeemed Ruth is still writing redemption into your story — and through your faithfulness, He is planting seeds for generations to come.

Kati