

**SERIES TITLE: RESCUED**

**PART THREE: WHEN YOU RISK**

**TEXT: RUTH 3**

**INTRODUCTION.**

The action of Ruth takes place during the time of Judges, more than 1,000 years before Christ. Since Ruth is a Moabitess (a nationality generally considered immoral in Israel—see Gen. 19:30-38; Numbers 25:1-3), the story shows how she became part of the royal lineage of David. An important part of the plot involves the kinsman-redeemer. To understand more about how the next of kin was obliged to help the widow and the impoverished, see Deut. 25:5-10; Lev. 25:23-28.

**DISCUSSION.**

Did your parents ever encourage you to date a specific person? How did you feel about that?

**EXAMINATION.**

Vv.1-4 Consider Naomi's instructions to Ruth. In their male-dominated world, how do you account for such boldness?

vv.5-14 What factors could lead some readers to believe that sexual indiscretion took place?

What factors indicate there was no sexual indiscretion?

Why did Ruth have to take initiative to prompt Boaz? Why wasn't he the initiator?

How does Leviticus 25:23-28 inform the situation described here?

vv.15-18 Why do you think Naomi is so confident that Boaz will settle things quickly?

**APPLICATION.**

- How does this story demonstrate "faithful risk"?
- What does it mean for you to take a faithful risk?
- How can Christians determine what risks to take, and what makes a risk off-limits?
- How does this story demonstrate "hopeful rest"?
- Why should "hopeful rest" describe salvation and the Christian life?
- What do you do or not do that indicates your belief that God is sovereign?

- If you lived every moment knowing God is sovereign, what would change the most:  
Your attitude? Your reactions? Your daily activities? Your worries? Your plans?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?