



# UNEXPECTED

A JOURNEY THROUGH RUTH

## TURNING NOBODIES TO SOMEBODIES.

Gideon was a wimp.

David was a shepherd.

Peter was abrasive.

Moses was a murderer.

Rahab was a prostitute.

Noah was a drunk.

Paul was a persecuter.

Ruth was an outsider.

What do all these people have in common? God used them in big, significant ways.

Louie Giglio once wrote, "The Enemy turns the best into the worst (the Garden of Eden), but God turns the worst into the best (Calvary.)" We can add: God is in the business of taking nobodies and turning them into somebodies.

Think you're too broken to be loved by God? Think you're too cowardly to be used by God? Think you're too screwed up to have a positive impact on the world?

Think again.

# IN THE BIBLE.

## **Ruth 4:13-17**

13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

14 The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! 15 He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

16 Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. 17 The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

## **Matthew 1:1-7, 12-16**

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,

Perez the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

4 Ram the father of Amminadab,

Amminadab the father of Nahshon,

Nahshon the father of Salmon,

**5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,**

**Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,**

Obed the father of Jesse,

**6 and Jesse the father of King David.**

**David was the father of Solomon,** whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

7 Solomon the father of Rehoboam,

12 After the exile to Babylon:

Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,

Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,

13 Zerubbabel the father of Abihud,

Abihud the father of Eliakim,

Eliakim the father of Azor,

14 Azor the father of Zadok,

Zadok the father of Akim,

Akim the father of Elihud,

15 Elihud the father of Eleazar,

Eleazar the father of Matthan,

Matthan the father of Jacob,

**16 and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.**

## QUESTIONS.

- 1.) What are some ways God used complete screw ups in the Bible?
- 2.) Why could it be surprising/unexpected to see Ruth and Boaz in Jesus's genealogy?
- 3.) What does that mean for you and I?

**Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:**

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?