



International Bible Lesson
Uniform Sunday School Lessons Series
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

God Can Use Our Feeble Faith
August 11, 2019
Ruth 1:6-18

“But Ruth said, ‘Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God’” (Ruth 1:16).

Naomi and her husband thought they could find security if they left Bethlehem, that was suffering from a famine, and went to Moab, an idolatrous enemy of the land of Israel. In Moab, Naomi’s husband, Elimelech, died. Her two sons married Moabite women, and then they died before they had children. Perhaps Naomi and Elimelech made a mistake or even committed a sin when they fled to Moab, for Naomi felt that the hand of the LORD had turned against her and she confessed, “the Almighty has brought calamity upon me.” However, when Naomi moved to Moab, she still had a feeble faith in the true God. Therefore, she had an impact upon her daughters-in-law beyond what she could have imagined, for when Naomi decided to return to the land of Judah, her daughters-in-law decided to go back with her and care for her. Despite what she felt, the LORD had not forsaken Naomi. Though her daughter-in-law, Orpha, went back to her idols and her family in Moab, Ruth chose to make the LORD her God, and the people of God her people, and to love and care for Naomi as her own mother in obedience to the Law of God.

She chose to obey the Ten Commandments, which included, “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.” Ruth’s faith in action restored Naomi’s faith in the LORD, where she found her ultimate security.

Thinking Further

1. Where did Naomi and her family seek security? After their husbands died, what did she advise Orpah and Ruth to do in order to find security? What did Naomi intend to do to find security?
2. Where and how do many people seek security today? What can happen to someone if they misplace their security?
3. Reread Ruth 1:15. In what ways are Naomi's recommendations to Ruth the very opposite of what she should have recommended and what she needed to do?
4. Why do you think Ruth knew what to do?
5. What part of Ruth’s reply to Naomi means the most to you? Why?

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